

COUNTRY LIFE

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RITA MARTIN.

LADY SYKES WITH HER DAUGHTER ANGELA.

74, Baker Street, W.



THE Journal for all interested in
Country Life and Country Pursuits

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* With this number of COUNTRY LIFE is published an illustrated Architectural Supplement.

A POSSIBLE SOLUTION OF THE COTTAGE DIFFICULTY.

HERTFORDSHIRE has set an example which, if followed by the other counties, would go a long way towards a solution of the cottage difficulty. At a meeting of the County Council, held on Monday, Mr. A. Holland-Hibbert proposed, and Lord Salisbury seconded, a resolution for the appointment of a Committee to consider the erection of cottages for policemen and roadmen. As an employer of labour, the Council is well entitled to do this, and as there is no suggestion that roadmaking is a sweated industry, it is to be hoped that good and substantial cottages will be built. It will be necessary to have the work done under most vigilant superintendence, because the county contains many flagrant illustrations of the trite saying, "a public body is a bad builder." It is less easy for a public body to obtain value for its money than it is for an individual. The official is not as a rule so careful to check inferior work and

unnecessary expense as an individual owner. It should not be difficult to plan the buildings. What is wanted in a cottage is a simple plan schemed out for the purpose of rendering the work of the cottage as light as possible. With it there should be a simple elevation. Beauty in this case is of a negative character, arising as it does from the absence of meretricious ornament.

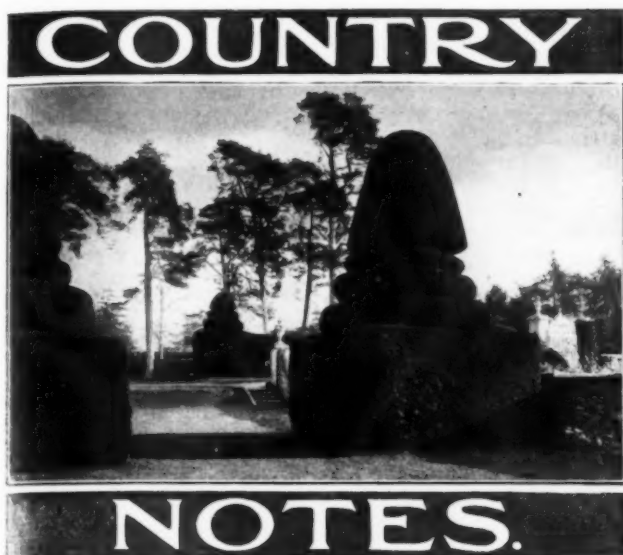
The effect of this policy will be scanned with exceeding interest. Hertfordshire is a county which contains far too many slummy villages. The population is congested in them, mainly because the very classes which were mentioned at the meeting of the County Council are not adequately provided for. When every official, either of the Government or of the County Council, is supplied with a cottage, there will be a relief of the congestion. Already the Education Department acknowledges responsibility by giving schoolhouses to the teachers. The Post Office may fairly be called upon to build cottages for their postmen and other servants, just as the County Council is recognising that its duty is to provide dwellings for its employes. Railway companies generally find houses for their men. Landowners should be urged and encouraged to build cottages for their labourers. At present the last mentioned, as well as the servants of the Post Office, of the County Council, and of the Education Department, are all crowded into villages, and they obtain possession of the best houses, for the simple reason that they have at once the steadiest and the highest wages. Now, to put up small and poor cottages for them would be a waste of money. The policy on which agreement is being arrived at very steadily is that of making all new dwelling-houses for the labouring classes of a good and substantial character. If that is done, they will quickly be occupied by those who can afford to rent and use a good type of cottage, while houses of an inferior sort will be filled up from such as at present are forced into dwellings that are really not fit for habitation. The last mentioned will thus, by a natural process, either be mended or ended. A great many are picturesque, rose-grown, bowery little places that are eminently worth the trouble. Hertfordshire is next door to Buckinghamshire and, like it, contains many small holdings and isolated cottages that Time has dealt kindly with as far as appearance goes. The owners would be encouraged to make them comfortable for their tenants if they could attract those who are able to pay a reasonable sum in the way of rent.

At a meeting of the Architectural Institute on Monday night, Lord Milner went so far as to say that it would be to the advantage of the country to have good cottages, even if these necessitated the addition of another 50 per cent. to the cost of erection. The statement may look extreme, but it is a very sound one. Any individual building a house out of his own capital would build nothing cheap or ephemeral unless compelled by want of funds. He is very well aware that the lasting article is the more profitable. He knows, too, that the standard of living among peasants is continually being raised. What contented them perfectly well fifty years ago will not do so now. There was a time when the two-roomed cottage was accepted as a standard. Indeed, in Dr. Ritchie's article, published the other day, an "improved" cottage with two rooms only was reproduced from a plan of the early nineteenth century. Subsequently, the house with two bedrooms was adopted as a standard, and now that with three bedrooms is generally accepted. The ordinary cottager who is of respectable habits and in good employment also wants his little parlour. It is a place into which visitors can be shown, and it can be used on feasts and holidays, at weddings, at christenings and at Christmas parties, even at funerals. For the rest, the accommodation may be very simple indeed. A good sized room for the kitchen, which will be also the living room; a scullery, where the cooking, washing and other work may be done; the recognised necessary sanitary arrangements; three bedrooms, of which one at least ought to have a fireplace: and the little house is complete. If Mr. Runciman would use the million and a-half for which he is applying for building cottages of this type on the Crown lands, he would give a splendid lead to the rest of England.

Our Portrait Illustration.

OUR portrait illustration is of Lady Sykes of Sledmere with her little daughter Angela. Lady Sykes is the third daughter of the Right Hon. Sir John Gorst, M.P., and was married to Sir Mark Sykes, M.P., in 1903.

* It is particularly requested that no permissions to photograph houses, gardens or livestock on behalf of COUNTRY LIFE be granted except when direct application is made from the offices of the paper. When such requests are received, the Editor would esteem the kindness of readers if they would forward the correspondence at once to him.



MR. ASQUITH, as a party leader, must, of necessity, hold and express views on which at least one half of his countrymen are not agreed. That is a fact inseparable from our party system. But on supreme occasions he has been able to give expression to thoughts held by Englishmen independent of all party connections. He succeeded in doing this in the most important passage of the speech delivered at the Guildhall banquet, when he, in felicitous and terse phraseology, defined the diplomatic relations existing between Great Britain and the United States. On matters of controversy there have been, and will be, the "freest and frankest discussions," yet "we both feel the fullest assurance that nothing can happen to disturb our common resolve to attain and maintain a friendly and sympathetic understanding." There has been nothing more remarkable of recent years than the growth of this mutual understanding between the United States and ourselves, and while it exists it goes far to ensure peace.

One always hesitates to hint at anything like criticism of the Royal Horticultural Society. It has done such splendid work for our gardens and gardeners that it seems almost ungrateful to hint that it could possibly do more. In our present issue, however, a correspondent offers a suggestion which is well worth the consideration of the Fellows. It is that the Royal Horticultural Society should send out a collector for the purpose of securing plants to be subsequently flowered or experimented upon at Wisley. We know that the work at Wisley of its kind is very excellent, and is of the greatest use to all who are directly or indirectly interested in horticulture. Nevertheless, some of it might very well be relegated to private enterprise. Our correspondent instances the hybridisation and other work done with such subjects as violas and culinary peas. These might surely be left to commerce. Seedsmen and nurserymen have shown the greatest enterprise in improving the types of flowers and vegetables, and they may safely be left to meet the public demands in these respects.

It has to be acknowledged that Kew and Wisley ought not to depend upon charity for new plants; yet that is what it comes to. Neither sends out any collector, and if anything new is added to them, it can only come as a voluntary gift from those who have gone out collecting at their own expense. In the case of Kew, the reasons given by our correspondent why it should not be asked to take up this branch are unanswerable. Kew is already overcrowded, and it is not sufficiently removed from the smoke of London. Wisley, however, is in an altogether different position. If the Royal Horticultural Society does not think that its present funds would admit of this extra expense, the suggestion of our correspondent that a number of Fellows could be found to contribute each an extra guinea or so annually is a perfectly practical one. We have reason to know that a very considerable number of the Fellows are prepared to fall in with this proposal. They think that the Royal Horticultural Society should not be outdone in enterprise either by private individuals or by nurserymen. We hope that our correspondent's letter will have the effect of bringing to a head the opinions on the subject which have been floating about in a rather vague and inchoate condition.

At the opening of the new session of the Royal Institute of British Architects on November 3rd, Mr. Reginald Blomfield gave an address on the present position of the "Mistress Art" in England. Lord Milner, in his reply, referred to the articles and correspondence on the cottage problem now appearing in *COUNTRY LIFE*, and observed that "There is a real danger of something very terrible happening to the beautiful English country-side, if we are to have an enormous multiplication of small cheap buildings without any sort of public control. I, for my part, am prepared to go a long way in this matter. I know there is a necessity for these buildings, I know the importance of economy, but, speaking as a political economist, I think it would be worth the while of this wealthy country to spend 30 per cent., or even 50 per cent., more on these erections—if they are to be erected with public money—in order to prevent the English country-side from being studded all over with a vast number of small, unsightly and unsuitable buildings." These words are a weighty endorsement of the attitude taken up by *COUNTRY LIFE*.

In some respects the most important pronouncement made at the meeting was that of the President of the Institute. Its reference will be readily appreciated by our readers. He said: "Either we are to have reasonable cottages which will not be a horror in the neighbourhood, or they will have to be built within the figure, which appears to be the standard figure, of £110, which architects in practice know to be perfectly ridiculous; and the sooner some of these absurd ideas which are scattered about before the public are put right, the better." Qualified opinion will be entirely with Mr. Blomfield. It will be seen from our Correspondence columns that the weakness of Mr. Arnold Mitchell's proposition becomes more apparent the more closely it is looked into.

THANKSGIVING.

It chanced that on a great Thanksgiving Day,
A fearless robin winged its venturous way
Thro' a Church window, near the Sanctuary.

Beneath the latticed windows there were spread
The luscious purple grape—the milk-white bread—
Signs of Christ's body broken, and blood shed,
With mimic golden sheaves
Of corn, and russet leaves,
Of pippins, rosy-red.

Presumptuous that the mellow fruit and seed
Oblations were, provided for his need,
He of the largest took with dainty greed.
While, with the Te Deum of our content
His psalm of joy to the High Altar went;
Nor till the generous feast was over, knew
The Banquet Hall to be a prison too.

Then with a quivering heart and clinging feet
His breast against th' unyielding bars he beat;
And, as a trespasser close trapped, would fain
The freedom that he covets most regain,
Grateful—though doubting, heedless—yet afraid,
His reckless flight for liberty he made.

And never went to Heaven more joyous strain
Of praise for ripened fruit or garnered grain,
Than the insistent song of ecstasy
Proclaiming that a little bird was free.

ELIZABETH KIRK.

Even more interesting than the announcement that the contract for the second three high-power stations in the Imperial Wireless Chain will be open to any company who can demonstrate that their system is equal to the work, is the appointment of a Committee to consider the question of State aid for wireless research. So many fascinating problems await solution, at present no entirely satisfactory hypothesis has been advanced concerning the nature of the Hertzian waves and the way they travel. There is also the baffling difference between day and night working; for signals can be transmitted double the distance at night that they can be sent by day with the same apparatus. To explain this Dr. Eccles has propounded an ingenious theory which assumes the differential ionisation of the gases of atmosphere by the sun's rays; but his hypothesis does not account for every fact. Then the elimination of the influence of electrical disturbances in the atmosphere is very important in high-speed signalling, for at present these uncalculated operators write strange things on the record.

The members of the Surveyors' Institute generally manage to get at the heart of any new scheme, and their discussion the other night of the proposal to give the agricultural tenant security of tenure was shrewd and able. Would-be legislators are apt to go too literally by the example of Ireland; but the conditions are very different in this country. For one thing, in Ireland the tenant did most of the improving himself; in England it has been the custom of the landowner to do it. Obviously, this is a determining fact in their relations. The ultimate effect of security of tenure would be the formation of an unavoidable dual ownership, and the landowner who saw this would very naturally put a stop to his capital expenditure on improvements which would be no longer his; just as a tenant who could get his rent lowered by a land court would be encouraged to cultivate badly in order to show that his profits were not sufficient to cover his rent. This kind of discussion is to be welcomed, because it deals with hard facts and is not coloured and distorted by prejudice.

In the discussion which is taking place, largely as a result of the Duke of Sutherland's offer to the Government, about the afforestation and pastoral value of deer forests, attention has been drawn to the statement of Lord Lovat and Captain Sterling that the altitude limit of profitable afforestation in Glen Mor is about 800ft. From that it is urged that the Sutherlandshire limit certainly cannot be higher, and is probably lower, because, roughly speaking, the Sutherlandshire forests lie a degree further to the North. The argument is perhaps not necessarily sound. Although Sutherlandshire lies so far to the North, its climate is certainly not as bleak as that of some of the inland Scottish shires which are a good deal further South. In the gardens of Dunrobin itself, though, to be sure, they are a veritable sun-trap, some flowers and plants flourish which we could not grow in many a Southern English shire. The forests are not equally favoured by the sun and by shelter from the North, but still they enjoy some of the warm airs coming off the Gulf Stream, and their climate is tempered accordingly.

Mr. Leopold Salomons of Norbury Park, Dorking, deserves an honourable niche in the temple of fame for his very generous action in purchasing Box Hill for the public benefit. It shows a fine spirit on his part. Box Hill can be seen from the grounds of his house, and no doubt Mr. Salomons has rejoiced many a time at the spectacle of so many town dwellers making an excursion to this beautiful spot on days of leisure. It is understood that negotiations have been proceeding for some time between Lord Francis Clinton-Hope, the tenant for life, and those interested in maintaining Box Hill as an open space. The prices are not disclosed, but it is said that Lord Francis Clinton-Hope met the proposal made to him in a generous spirit. It is melancholy to reflect that he who advised Mr. Salomons in these negotiations, as he had advised the prime mover in many other movements of a similar kind, will do so no more. Sir Robert Hunter's death removes from our midst one whose name ought ever to be remembered in connection with the provision of open spaces for the public.

Last week, at the advanced age of ninety years, Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace passed away. The story of the great essay which he sent to Darwin, who had forestalled him, is one of the most dramatic tales in the vast history book of science. The clamour and the conflict, the music-hall gibes and the thunder from the pulpit have passed long years ago; but through the fight science won a freedom never before wrenched from tradition. It is the man himself who stands out before us as we write, industrious, untiring and optimistic, maybe often erring, but endowed with something of the spirit of the elder gods. The last time we visited him was one warm summer day a year ago; he came down through his beautiful garden telling his visitors the story of each rare plant and flower, and at last we came to a new-made bog garden; the Doctor turned round with pride and said: "Well, it is not much now, but you must come and see it in ten years' time!" In this sentence is the key to the whole soul of the man; it is a great spirit who, at the age of eighty-nine, can labour and plan for a decade to come.

We are so used to hearing of the inefficiency of our Public School and University education, and that "they do these things better in America" or Germany, as the case may be, that it is refreshing to read the opinion of a man in a position to judge. In a long letter in the last *Times Educational Supplement* Mr. George L. Fox, the Headmaster of the University School, New Haven, Connecticut, proves our superiority to the hilt, and he has studied personally the Public Schools and Universities of this country and the United States during the

past twenty years. He says of the reports on the American Rhodes Scholars that no one reading between the lines can doubt "that in the fierce intellectual struggle of the leading schools at Oxford these college graduates from the United States at twenty-two cannot maintain their ground with English youths of nineteen leaving the sixth at any of the great Public Schools." But this is not all, by any means. He goes over the whole field of school examinations, and then takes an even better standard of comparison. "The same superiority of English pupils is shown by comparing the text-books used in the two countries. Of course, this statement goes without saying with regard to Latin and Greek Classics. . . . Mathematics is now especially in my mind. Each year when I come to England I add to my collection of English text-books. In it are algebras, geometries and books on trigonometry, all published within the last ten years. Not one of those books could be used in American schools without very large omissions, for they would be considered much too difficult, and be much in advance of the requirements for admission to college in my country. What are styled 'Elementary Algebras' in England would be considered very advanced in America and suitable for college work." It is good to learn, also, that our standard is little behind the German, for in the moulding of character our system is superior. In some ways, nevertheless, English Public School education might be vastly improved, and not the least of these is in the teaching of foreign languages.

COUNTRY NIGHTS.

Yes; the Town may have its Voices, its varied, mingled tone,
The roar of restless bustle in a ceaseless, heavy drone:
A sound which through the night-time only sinks a little lower,
The merest, faint suspicion that its pulse is beating slower.
But far beyond the traffic and still further from the lights,
Are Voices, drowsy Voices, which just linger through the nights,
There's the long, long moaning wail of the lonely circling owl,
The faint, mysterious echo of a fox's distant howl.
The woods are full of darkness and the little spreading farms
Lie sleeping in the hollows 'neath their mist-enshrouded arms.
There's sweetness and there's sadness in the mellow scented wind,
A sweetness nowhere else but there, the privileged will find.
The murmur from the tree-tops sings a duet with the stream.
Ah, night-time in the country is a dim, exquisite dream!

G. C. SCHEU.

Much can be said in favour of the scheme for establishing a National Signpost Fund which was discussed the other night at a dinner of the Automobile Association. Everybody travels by road nowadays, and everybody knows how varied and different from one another are the methods of signposting, even in adjoining localities. Here and there the local authority has been munificent and put up finger-posts that really do enable the traveller, either on wheel or foot, to find his way from one place to another; but the directions given in one neighbourhood are often rendered of no avail by the fact that they are not continued in another. You start on a road leading to such and such a place, often with a statement in plain figures of the distance to be traversed, and are getting on quite well till you come to a place where four roads meet—and no signpost at all. It would not take much to remedy these defects. Indeed, it was said at the Automobile Association dinner that a fund of £50,000 would be sufficient to meet the case. Sir George Gibb, chairman of the Road Board, said that if the Road Board had the power, they would be delighted to subscribe.

The second half of the match at squash rackets between Hull of Prince's and Johnson of the Royal Automobile Club produced one of those reversals of form which are by no means uncommon at a game in which familiarity with the court is of such vast importance. At the Royal Automobile Club Johnson won by two games to love, thirty aces to five. At Prince's Hull won by two games to love, thirty aces to thirteen. Squash rackets can soon grow monotonous as a spectacle, but for a short while it is undoubtedly fascinating, and Tuesday's match, played as it was at a great pace, with perhaps rather more hard hitting than subtlety, provided a crowded hall hour of very good fun. The white walls, red floor and black ball seen in a blaze of electric light made up a picture of rather curious colours, and the spectator hardly knew which to wonder at most, the skill of the players in hitting the ball or that of the referee in seeing how and when or whether they hit it. To see a game played by artificial light, excepting, of course, billiards, is always something of a shock, but the possibility of doing so is the greatest of blessings to many people who would otherwise languish without exercise, and squash rackets, whatever else it may be, is very good exercise indeed.

THE SOUTH POLE.



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A WEDDELL SEAL ON THE BEACH.

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WHEN, a few months ago, the news reached this country of the fate of Captain Scott and his comrades, many people were found asking: To what good purpose was this waste of life? There are many excuses for that question, and there are many answers to it. Some of the answers will be found in the two volumes containing the story of "Scott's Last Expedition" (Smith, Elder and Co), which have been arranged by Mr. Leonard Huxley, the first being the Journals of the leader and the second being the reports of the journeys and the scientific work undertaken by Dr. Wilson and the surviving members of the expedition. Sir Clements Markham, in a brief preface, describes Scott as "this great man," and few people, after reading this record of his work, will be inclined to

dispute his claim to that title. All the world is now familiar with the details of that heroic journey from the Pole, the lowered spirits of the winners of the second prize, the death of one man, the sickness of another, the failure of fuel and the awful series of blizzards and bad going which led to the final tragedy in March, 1912. A few extracts will suffice: January 17th—"Great God! this is an awful place and terrible enough for us to have reached it without the reward of priority." January 18th—"Well, we have turned our back now on the goal of our ambition, and must face over 800 miles of solid dragging—and goodbye to most of the day-dreams!" February 13th—"Yesterday was the worst experience of the trip and gave a horrid feeling of insecurity." March 2nd—"We are in a very queer street, since there is no doubt we cannot do the extra marches, and feel the cold horribly." Friday, March 16th, after the death of Captain Oates—"We all hope to meet the end with a similar spirit, and assuredly the end is not far." The end came thirteen days later, and they met it like gallant Englishmen. The tale of courage and self-sacrifice and of terrible hardships nobly borne is a glorious legacy, which their countrymen will cherish for all time. It does not concern us now to know why there was that fatal lack of fuel for the later stages of the journey from the Pole, nor why it was decided to make the longest journey without dogs, which were used with such swiftness and success by the Norwegian, Amundsen, and his four companions. We get the impression after reading this book—and, indeed, we had it long before—



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A WEDDELL SEAL ABOUT TO DIVE.

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SUMMER TIME: THE OPENING UP OF THE ICE.

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that there was an atmosphere of misfortune about the whole expedition; from the first great storm that nearly overwhelmed the *Terra Nova*, through a series of losses of a motor sledge, of dogs and of ponies, and a sequence of almost incredibly narrow escapes from personal disaster, leading up to the final tragedy itself. It is difficult to account for this impression, unless it was that the expedition was too large and unwieldy, overloaded with a multiplicity of objects. Before he left England Captain

Scott wrote a note in which he clearly explains his point of view. "I submit that the effort to reach a spot on the surface of the globe which has hitherto been untrodden by human foot, unseen by human eyes, is in itself laudable; and when the spot has been associated for so long a time with the imaginative ambitions of the civilised world and when it possesses such a unique geographical position as a pole of the earth, there is something more than mere sentiment, something more than

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THE MIDNIGHT SUN IN THE MCMURDO SOUND.

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an appeal to our sporting instinct, in its attainment; it appeals to our national pride and the maintenance of our great traditions, and its quest becomes an outward visible sign that we are still a nation able and willing to undertake difficult enterprises, still capable of standing in the van of the army of progress. But though this attainment of a pole of the earth be in itself a high enterprise worthy of national attention, it must be obvious that there are various ways in which such a project can be undertaken.

It becomes, therefore, a plain duty for the explorer to bring back more than a bare account of his movements; he must bring us every possible observation of the conditions under which his journey has been made.

Such a result cannot be achieved by a single individual or by a number of individuals trained on similar lines. . . . I have arranged for a scientific staff larger than that which has been carried by any previous expedition and for a very extensive outfit



Dr. G. M. Leveck, R.N.

PENGUINS JUMPING ON TO THE ICE FOOT.

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the birds the most notable are the young in down of the Emperor penguin. These birds are singular in nesting at the coldest season of the year, and the journey of Dr. Wilson's

party during five weeks of the Polar winter is surely the hardest task that was ever undertaken with the object of collecting birds' eggs. "A very interesting fact we saw at the rookery this time was that the birds are so anxious to incubate an egg that they will incubate a rounded lump of ice instead, just as before we noticed them incubate a dead and frozen chick, if they were unable to secure a living one. Both Bowers and I, in the failing light, mistook these rounded dirty lumps of ice for eggs, and picked them up as eggs before we realised what they were. One of them I distinctly saw dropped by a bird, and it was roughly egg-shaped and of the right size—hard, dirty and semi-translucent ice. I also saw one of the birds return and tuck one of these ice 'nest-eggs' on to its feet, under the abdominal flap. I had a real egg in my hand, so I put it down on the ice close to this bird, and the bird at once left the lump of ice and shuffled to the real egg and pushed it under its flap on to the

feet. It apparently knew the difference, and it shows how strong is the desire to brood over something." Emperor penguins are engaging and inquisitive birds; they are curious about



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PENGUIN DIVING.

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of scientific instruments and impedimenta. Doubtless there are those who will criticise this provision in view of its published object—that of reaching the South Pole. But I

believe that the more intelligent section of the community will heartily approve of the endeavour to achieve the greatest possible scientific harvest which the circumstances permit." That Captain Scott himself realised the importance of the scientific collections is evident when we read of the thirty-five pounds' weight of fossils which he and his companions dragged with them to the last. Among the many valuable specimens brought home, not the least important are some fossil fishes, which will doubtless throw new light on the history of the earth. The previous expeditions of the *Discovery* and the *Nimrod* had brought back large collections of seals and penguins, so that there were no big animals new to science left to be discovered by the *Terra Nova*, but collections were made of many rare and interesting creatures; these are now at the Natural History Museum, where they are being described by the authorities in the different departments. Among



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SKUA GULLS FIGHTING OVER SOME BLUBBER.

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SEALS BASKING ON NEWLY FORMED PANCAKE-ICE OFF CAPE EVANS.

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any unusual object, and they go away on walking parties, "apparently to see the country," for weeks at a time. Very commonly seen about the camps were skuas, which are described as being "most quarrelsome birds. They would fight for hours over the carcase of a freshly killed seal before they realised there was food for ten times as many skuas—and by this time the flesh would be frozen so hard they could make no impression on it." Seals furnished

a frequent supply of fresh meat, and they occasionally afforded amusement by their droll antics. On one occasion parties of seals were met with nearly thirty miles inland, and it was found they had arrived there by way of the fresh water stream flowing under a glacier. In the Antarctic regions there are no polar bears nor other carnivorous creatures on land, but in the sea are the most fierce and voracious animals that exist, the killer whales, or grampus. These creatures are armed

*Herbert G. Ponting, F.R.G.S.*

ALBATROSS FORAGING IN THE WAKE OF THE TERRA NOVA.

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with the most terrible teeth, and they combine in packs to hunt down and destroy seals and the larger species of whales, which they tear to pieces. They also exhibit a quite diabolical cunning, as was witnessed one day by Captain Scott: "Some 6 or 7 killer whales, old and young, were skirting the fast floe edge ahead of the ship; they seemed excited and dived rapidly, almost touching the floe. As we watched, they suddenly appeared astern, raising their snouts out of water. Close to the water's edge lay the wire stern rope of the ship, and our two Esquimaux dogs were tethered to this. I did not think of connecting the movements of the whales with this fact, and seeing them so close I shouted to Ponting, who was standing abreast of the ship. He seized his camera and ran towards the floe edge to get a picture of the beasts, which had momentarily disappeared. The next moment the whole floe under him and the dogs heaved up and split into fragments. One could hear the 'booming' noise as the whales rose under the ice and struck it with their backs. Whale after whale rose under the ice, setting it rocking fiercely; luckily Ponting kept his feet and was able to fly to security. By an extraordinary chance also the splits had been made around and

between the dogs, so that neither of them fell into the water. Then it was clear that the whales shared our astonishment, for one after another their huge hideous heads shot vertically into the air through the cracks which they had made. . . . There cannot be a doubt that they looked up to see what had happened to Ponting and the dogs. . . . Of course, we have known well that killer whales continually skirt the edge of the floes and that they would undoubtedly snap up anyone who was unfortunate enough to fall into the water, but the facts that they could display such deliberate cunning, that they were able to break ice of such thickness (at least 2½ ft.), and that they could act in unison, were a revelation to us." The readers of this book will congratulate Mr. Ponting on his narrow escape from the jaws of the grampus, and they will rejoice that he was spared to produce the beautiful photographs with which the volumes are illustrated. It was a happy thought to take so accomplished an artist on the expedition; his pictures are already so well known that further praise of them is superfluous. There will be many who will be in accord with Captain Scott when he wrote in his last letter to his wife: "Make the boy interested in natural history if you can; it is better than games."

THE MAKING OF A CROFT.

SO vague, and often so erroneous, are the impressions that are abroad regarding the type of land available for the formation of crofts in Scotland that a word on the subject and, better still, a few photographs may clear away much misapprehension. The great agricultural awakening of Scotland in the nineteenth century, associated with the devising in 1835 of an effective and invaluable system of drainage, the discovery of artificial manures and their best uses, and the invention of machines which not only lightened labour but increased the available yield of crops, culminated in the agricultural boom of the "seventies." At this time, practically all the land which evidently would repay tillage had been broken up, and labour also had been devoted to much that, without ruinous expenditure, could never be made to yield a satisfactory return. To this latter over-enthusiasm may be attributed a considerable proportion of the relapses from cultivated to waste land which in the last ten years have deprived Scotland of 123,000 acres of cropped fields and permanent pasture. In the main two types of land offered themselves for tillage—moss and moor. Of the two, the former was the more satisfactory—a rich organic soil was generally there in plenty, waiting



J. Ritchie.

MOORLAND UNCONQUERED.

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only the removal of superfluous water and superimposed moss to render it ploughable and fertile. The method of attacking such ground, put shortly, was as follows: By a series of main and subsidiary drains, the area was dried. The moss was then trenched deeply and overturned. Thereafter lime, to the extent of sometimes 100 to 120 bolls an acre, was added, and even soil from a different area was laid down to give firmness to the upper stratum. In this condition the ground was left exposed to the frosts of winter and, in the succeeding spring, after a liberal dressing with farmyard manure (twenty to thirty tons per acre), the surface was harrowed and rolled, and was then considered fit for a first crop. The greater part of the reclaiming of moss land took place in the latter years of the eighteenth and early half of the nineteenth century. In the majority of cases crofts were formed by the hand labour of the crofters themselves and their families, and this naturally reduced the out-of-pocket or apparent expenses of the process. Nevertheless, despite the extremeness of wages, the value of the work where all the charges



J. Ritchie.

A STRETCH OF PEAT LAND.

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are known was found in actual experience to be somewhat as follows for each acre :

	£	s.	d.
To digging and forming the ridges per acre ..	4	0	0
To covering with earth at 6d. per yard..	6	0	0
To twenty tons dung and carriage six miles ..	12	0	0
To wheeling on, hoeing, harrowing, and rolling	2	0	0
Total per acre	£24	0	0

In some parts of the country, however, as in the neighbourhood of Stirling, a peculiar mode was followed of removing the entire stratum of peat earth, or moss, and so exposing the natural soil beneath.

As regards true moorland the case was somewhat different. The labour of overturning the earth was heavier, and rocks, boulders and stones had to be thrown up and carted off the soil. Naturally, the toil involved varied with the district and the exact nature of the ground, and the expenses of breaking in varied accordingly. Moreover, the expense of labour was a factor that had to be reckoned with, and that in the later developments about the seventies even dominated the situation. The simple methods adopted in the later years of the eighteenth century give a fair outline of the process of converting moor to arable land. It may be stated in the words of an authority of that period : "To prepare the ground for the plough, many spots are trenched no less than fifteen inches deep, and the stones removed at the rate of £3 per acre ; the stones are used



James Ritchie.

CONQUERED MOORLAND.

for fences, hollow drains and repairing the roads. After three plowings, turnip is sown broadcast, and carefully hand-hoed ; the crop is good, tho' without dung or any manure, the turnip weighing from 9 to 10lb." And yet at the same time, within three miles of Aberdeen barren lands were being broken in which—for trenching, carrying off the stones, manuring and improving—frequently cost their owners £40 or £50, and in several cases £100, an acre.

The following case is typical of many in more recent years : In a Donside parish a small area of 360 acres began to be taken in hand in 1856, when wages were about 10s. a week. Between 1864 and 1869 wages had risen to from 13s. to 15s. a week, and at that time the cost of hand-trenching the ground to a depth of 1ft. and throwing the stones on the surface fluctuated from £10 to £16 an acre. But this was only the beginning, for before the preliminary preparations for seed-sowing could be commenced, about 1,000 cartloads of stones per acre had to be removed, each cart, owing to the heavy nature of the ground, being able to convey only from 13cwt. to 15cwt. at a time. From this refuse were built great "consumpt" or "consumption" dykes, such as that at Kingswells, which, as mentioned in a previous article, form a solid rampart 5ft. or 6ft. in height, 20ft. to 30ft. in breadth and nearly half a mile in length. In 1873 the reclaiming of this particular area ceased owing to the continuous rise in wages, and it was estimated that in the recovering of a farm of 115 acres close on £3,000 was expended. Estimates supplied to me by other farmers and crofters in the same area give the same result.

The reclaiming was, in almost every case, undertaken between 1860 and the later seventies, and the hand-trenching alone, 1ft. deep, cost from £10 to £16 an acre. On the other hand, a Tweedside farmer of wide experience informs me that on more hospitable soil he has ploughed, fenced and limed many acres at an average cost of £11 to £12.

For the crofter, however, such calculations are beside the point. Lack of capital forbids the employment of outside labour, and the crofter who would reclaim his small farm must needs set his own back to the work. For him the following old estimate of capabilities may be of more interest : "It is calculated that an active spadesman would find little difficulty in bringing half an acre annually into an improved state, for as 80 rods make half an acre, and there being 313 working days in the year, to accomplish this it would require little more than a quarter of a rod to be trenched daily, whereas a moderate day's work, even where the soil is stony and difficult to trench, would exceed a rod. But where there is a boy or two to assist, an acre might with perfect ease be brought into an improved state yearly."

Although the agricultural boom of the seventies swallowed up most of the available land, it is certain that there still exists, even in highly cultivated Aberdeenshire, waste areas capable of being broken in with profit. Still, the would-be agricultural pioneer may well lay to heart the following words, as true to-day as when they were written in 1842 : "A barren rocky desert may be rendered productive by covering it with soil and manures brought from a distance of miles, aided by skilful tillage ; but will the cost of these operations be fairly returned by the profits of the produce? Gold itself may be purchased too highly, and so may agricultural improvements."

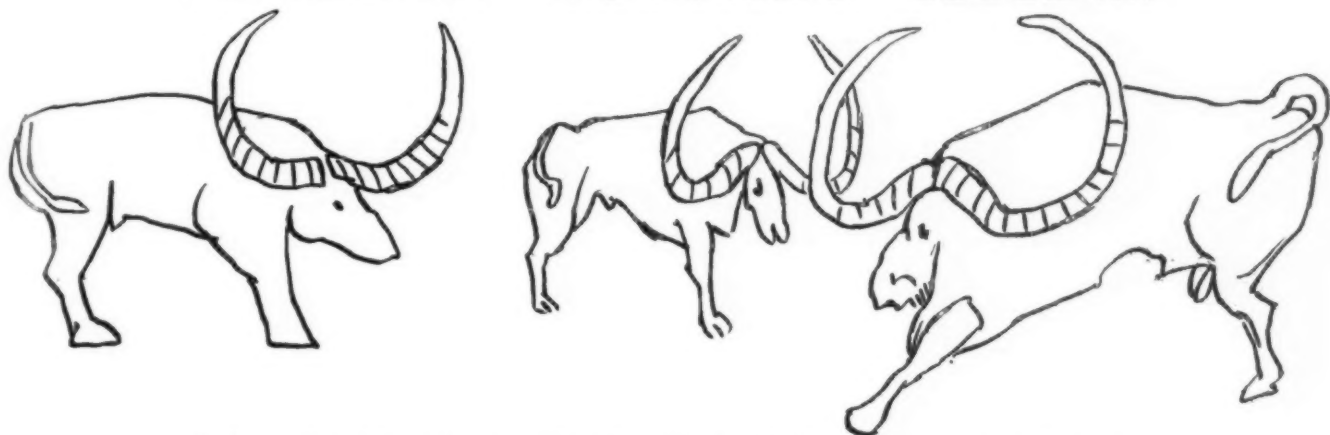
JAMES RITCHIE.

LAW AND THE LAND.

A POINT of great importance to motor-car owners who garage their cars in their own converted stables or coach-houses has been decided by the Divisional Court. It is, perhaps, not generally appreciated that the regulations under which petrol and other petroleum spirits may be kept in a building provide that where the "storehouse forms part of or is attached to another building, and where the intervening floor or partition is of an unsustained and highly inflammable character, no such storehouse shall be used as a dwelling." In the case in question, a stable with lofts had been converted into a garage, and the lofts turned into dwelling-rooms, the intervening ceiling and partitions being of the usual lath and plaster character, with a wooden staircase. In the lower portion three cars were garaged at night, being usually out during the daytime, and on the occasion in question each car had petrol in its tank, and in one was an unopened tin of petrol. This, said the Judges, and said it very reluctantly, be it noted, constituted the whole building a storehouse for petrol, and, consequently, an offence had been committed by allowing the rooms above to be used as a dwelling place. The moral seems to be that petrol tanks must be emptied, and all petrol stored away from where people are living.

MR. JUSTICE SCRUTTON has had to consider and decide a point of great importance arising under the provisions of the Finance Act relating to undeveloped land duty. It will be remembered that there is an exemption from liability to that duty in favour of agricultural land held under a tenancy created by agreement entered into before April 30th, 1909, unless the landlord has power to determine the tenancy. Agricultural land at Southend was held under a lease created before that date, which contained a provision that the lessors might determine the tenancy and resume possession for the purpose of building on the land. The land was assessed for undeveloped land duty, but the owners appealed, alleging that as they did not want to build they had no right to end the tenancy, and therefore, under the exemption clause, duty was not payable. The learned judge held that the fact that the owners did not desire to exercise their option did not deprive them of the power to do so, and therefore that they did not come within the terms of the exemption. He accepted the contention of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, that the aim of the tax was to hit people who only use for agriculture land which is of greater value for other purposes, and if a person who has power to determine a tenancy said he will not determine it because he does not want to use the land for purposes other than agriculture, he is doing the very thing the tax was meant to stop by forcing into the market land which was held up because its owner did not want, for some reason or another, to develop it. As leave to appeal was given, we shall probably hear more of this very interesting question.

AFRICAN BUFFALO HORNS.



Rock engravings of *Bos antiquus* near Géryville, not far from the Morocco frontier of South-West Algeria.

POSSIBLY the most amazing development in horns (as contrasted with antlers) is to be found in the buffalo group of bovines developed during the Pleistocene in Italy and in both North and South Africa. The North African species, usually known as *Bos (Bubalus) antiquus*, is considered by Mr. R. Lydekker to be virtually identical with the *Bos bairdii* found, fossil or semi-fossil, in Cape Colony. Both of these forms—the *Bos antiquus* of Algeria and the *Bos bairdii* of Cape Colony—had horn cores which in some instances measure fourteen feet from base to tip along the curve, and must have been perhaps a foot longer when they were clothed with the horny integument.

The *Bos antiquus* of Algeria was first revealed by its bones, comparatively fresh or in a semi-fossil condition, in very large quantities (chiefly skulls), during the geological exploration of Algeria which began in the middle of the last century. But about twenty years ago French archaeologists and palæontologists reproduced by photography or drawing the remarkable petroglyphs or rock engravings which are so frequent a feature on the high plateaux of Algeria, and which have been independently discovered in Southern Morocco, and have been traced by various French explorers right across the Sahara Desert almost to the valley of the Upper Niger. In the petroglyphs of Algeria and Eastern Morocco (perhaps also in those of the *Sus* country) there is depicted frequently a large buffalo with enormous horns, which is obviously identical with the *Bos antiquus* represented by the numerous osseous remains of the

and South Africa (and apparently originated in Italy) to have been related structurally both to the African and Asiatic groups of buffaloes. In its horns and skull features it displays an affinity with the existing dun-coloured buffalo of Assam (*Bos bubalis fulvus*), though the horns are much more circular in

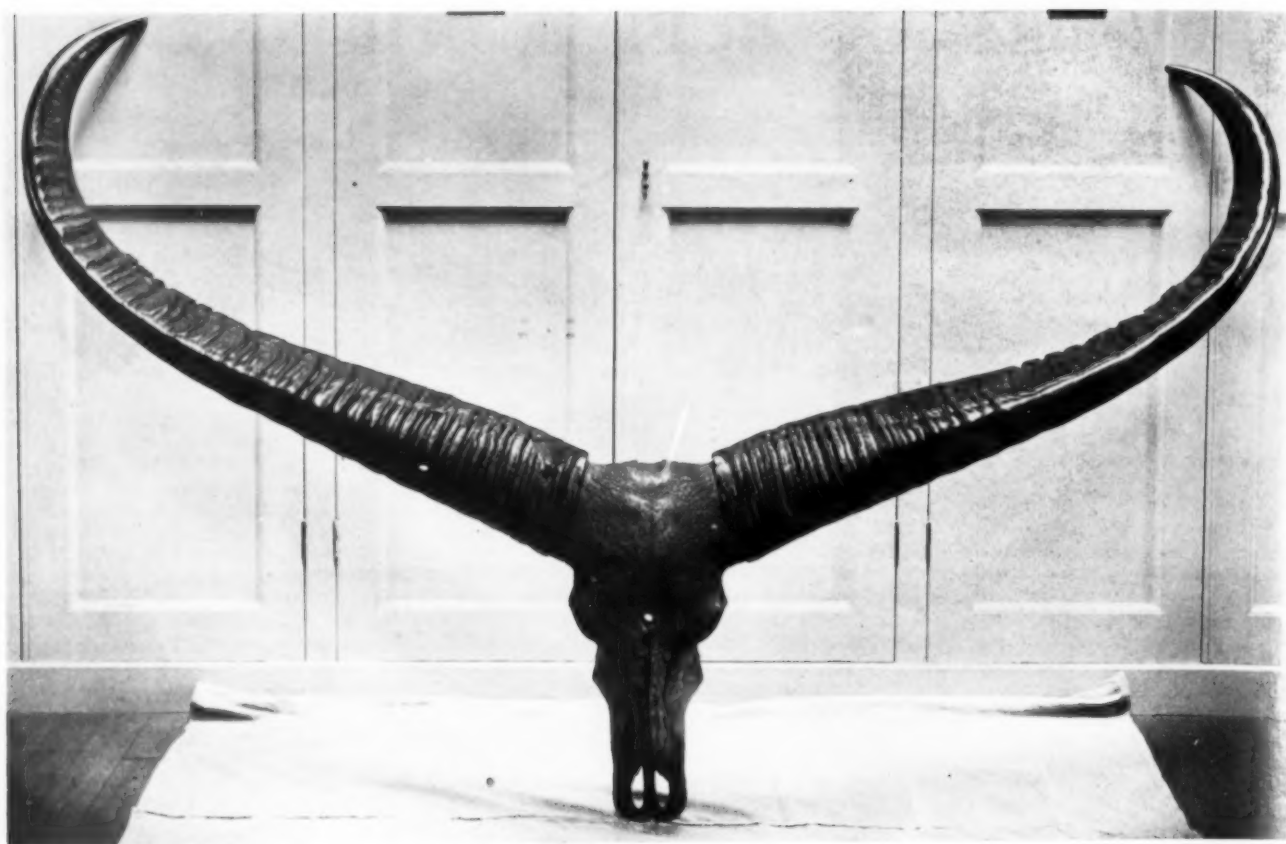


Skull and horns of the Anoa (*Bos depressicornis*), the little buffalo of Celebes (scarcely more than half the size of the Indian buffalo skulls opposite).

human period (Pleistocene to recent alluvium). I have seen some of these petroglyphs myself in the mountains to the north-east of Fig. 19, on the frontier between Algeria and Morocco. The accompanying illustrations were copied by me from the prehistoric drawings on the stone slabs now exhibited at the University of Algiers, or from photographs of these slabs. Various authorities, like Pomel and Lydekker, consider this buffalo of the gigantic horns which once existed in North



Two Indian buffalo skulls (*Bos bubalis*) contrasted with a skull of the Cape buffalo (*Bos caffer*—lowest figure).



Horns of *Bos bubalis macroceros*, the gigantic buffalo of Assam. These horns (British Museum) measure five feet five inches from base to tip, and another specimen has horns six feet five inches long. But the extinct *Bos antiquus* and *Bos bairdii* had horns nearly fifteen feet in length.

their sweep, and in some of the prehistoric drawings show a downward inclination from the skull, and a general outline of curve which more resembles that of the South African buffalo. There is a greater approximation of the horny sheath at the horn bases than is found in the Asiatic buffaloes, but none of the sub-fossil specimens nor the prehistoric drawings indicate that excessive enlargement of the bony core and horn boss at the base which is characteristic of the modern male African buffaloes.

A comparison of the skulls of the larger types of Indian buffalo and the largest African skulls shows that the former are of greater size, while the sweep of their horns is considerably longer. The large buffaloes of British East Africa (Kenya), of Ankole (Uganda), and Katanga (South Congoland), furnish interesting types, possibly of the same sub-species, *Bos caffer radcliffei*. Though the examples of this form are at present isolated, they probably represent a single sub-species of buffalo ranging throughout East Central Africa, and possibly reappearing in the coast regions south of the Zambezi delta (*B. c. limpopoensis*). Apparently *B. c. radcliffei* has longer and less bossed horns than those of any other existing male African type.

The existing African buffaloes, the range of which does not now extend north of the Sudan region and the outskirts of Abyssinia, are divided by modern systematists, noteworthy among whom is Mr. R. Lydekker, into the following principal types, all of them belonging to but one species, *Bos caffer*. Concerning North African buffaloes, I myself drew attention, in the Zoological Society's Proceedings for 1898, to the existence of a remarkable

herd of wild buffalo of the Indian type in the marshes of Mateur, in the northern part of Tunis. These buffaloes are said to be descended from the domestic Indian buffalo, examples of which were given by a King of Naples to a Bey of Tunis. But I have not been able to find any confirmation of the story, and, according to local traditions, these buffaloes have inhabited this particular region of swamp—a rare geographical feature in North Africa—for a long period. It would be interesting to have these buffaloes thoroughly investigated from a scientific point of view and their identity set at rest. From such skulls and horns as I have seen in Tunis, they certainly resembled most nearly the domestic Indian buffalo of Italy; but their horns were longer and there is just a chance that they might be degenerate descendants of the gigantic *Bos antiquus*, which had lingered on in existence to the present day; for, inasmuch as some of the drawings of Neolithic man represent the *Bos antiquus* with a pack-saddle, this amazing buffalo may have been domesticated or semi-domesticated, and have been the wild ox occasionally alluded to by Roman and Arab writers describing North Africa, though this may also have been a survival of the North African Urus, the *Bos primigenius opisthomus*.

Group 1.—The so-called dwarf buffaloes of the more forested regions of Central and West Africa (I insert the qualification "so-called" because some, though of short horns, are almost as large in bulk as the Cape buffalo) have been recently divided by Mr. Lydekker into six distinct types. Those interested in the details of this question should study Mr. Lydekker's paper in the Proceedings of the Zoological



Horns of the smallest form of African buffalo, *Bos caffer nanus*, the red-haired Congo buffalo. Note the well marked corrugations.

Society, and his new catalogue of the Bovidae (British Museum), both published in July, 1913. In size this group, though it contains the smallest of the African buffaloes (*Bos caffer nanus*), includes some subspecies which are of medium size, or almost as big as the large South and East African buffaloes. But in colour the forms in Group 1 are mostly not black, but tend to be dun colour or red in the females and young, and in some forms red or brown in the bulls as well. Moreover, two of the subspecies (West African) have an orange band on the throat and sometimes an orange spot at the meeting of jaw and neck, below the ear, which recall the white markings on the cheeks and neck of two or three Indian bovines, and are probably relics of nearly lost, old, "tragelaphine" markings on the ancestral



Horns of *Bos caffer brachyceros*, the Lake Chad buffalo.



Horns of male *Bos caffer planiceros*, the Senegambian buffalo.



A buffalo head from the Orange River, Northern Cape Colony: probably *Bos caffer gariepensis*. (Carl Hagenbeck's collection.)



Horns of *Bos caffer æquinoctialis*, the Equatorial Nile buffalo.



Bos caffer caffer. A typical South Cape Colony buffalo skull, probably from the Knysna Forest. (Hagenbeck's collection.)



Bos caffer wiesei, the buffalo of Nyasaland and Northern Zambezia. (Sir Harry Johnston's collection.)



Horns of a British East African buffalo, probably *Bos caffer schillingsi*. (Hagenbeck's collection.)



Skull of a buffalo from Portuguese East Africa (*Bos caffer limpopoensis*).

cattle. Group 1 is confined in its distribution to West and West Central Africa, its members ceasing abruptly to exist on the exact fringe of the Congo Forest on the frontiers of Uganda and the West Coast of Tanganyika. Southward they extend with the forests round the sources

of the Zambezi to the Kwanza River in Angola. A black form of this small-horned buffalo (*B. c. simpsoni*) extends in its range from the Zambezi-Congo water-parting near the Upper Kasai to the vicinity of the Congo at Stanley Pool. The photograph here given of a cow of this subspecies was taken by the late Rev. George Grenfell near the south shore of Stanley

Pool. It is succeeded on the north and east by a red buffalo (*B. c. cottoni*), and on the west (Angola) by a blackish brown form (*B. c. mayi*), the horns of which, however, are more like those of *B. c. nanus*, but take a more upward direction. *Bos caffer nanus* is the common "red" buffalo of the inner Congo basin. It merges on the east and north into *B. c. cottoni* of Northern

Congoland, a much larger, redder animal, with similar but larger horns. I have seen the horns of this species on the banks of the Semliki River (Uganda Frontier), where its range abruptly ceases. The typical horns of *B. c. nanus* are the most primitive of any known African buffalo, and come nearest to the Anoa type. They exhibit the antelope rings more clearly marked than those of the Anoa or of any Indian buffalo. (These rings, however, were—if Neolithic man is to be believed—very marked in the extinct *Bos antiquus*.) The horns of the females in Group 1 grow fairly far apart; those of the male nearly but not quite meet in the centre of the forehead.

Group 2, the Eastern Equatorial buffaloes, typified by *Bos caffer equinotialis*.—One member of this group—Thierry's buffalo—appears to range as far to the west as the Dahome-Togo hinterland, west of the Lower Niger. For the most part, however, the large-sized black buffaloes of this group inhabit the regions of the Equatorial Nile and Bahr-al-ghazal, the banks of the Upper Shari River, Uganda and North Tanganyika. Their horns are more imposing than those of Group 1, but they are not so long as those of the East and South African buffaloes, not so broad at the frontal base, nor so sharply recurved at the tip; they are more backward directed, and lack that downward sweep so characteristic of Groups 3, 4 and 5. The Eastern Equatorial buffaloes are, in both sexes, black or blackish brown, but *B. c. mathewsi* of Ruanda and North Tanganyika has a white tuft to its tail.

Group 3 may be described as the long-horned African buffaloes. Its range would seem to extend from the Limpopo River and Portuguese South-East Africa to Katanga (Congo-land, Aukole, and even the forested regions of British East



The long horned buffalo of Katanga, South Congoland.

Road Museum. The illustration here given of the Katanga type is a reproduction from a photograph in the records of the Congo Museum at Tervueren. The horns of this group are in general more slender than those of the others (proportionately); they are longer, and their bases, though hunched up and bossy in the male, are not disproportionately broad; the smooth, rounded, terminal portion of the horns is long, and the tips are bent back abruptly. The horns have a marked downward sweep. The body is big and black-haired.

Group 4 includes buffaloes of South-West, South Central and Eastern Africa; it is well typified by the buffalo of Nyasaland and Zambezia—*Bos caffer wiesei*—and includes the Blue Nile buffalo (*B. c. azrakensis*), and probably the

buffaloes of Somaliland, and of the coast regions of British and German East Africa (*B. c. schillingsi* and *B. c. wembeiensis*). These specifications may be added to or reduced when we have a better series of examples to go by. I should think, from what I remember of the buffaloes of Ovampoland and southernmost Angola, that they belonged to this group, which is characterised (besides the large size and black hair) by horns of very broad base, yet not actually meeting in the middle, and much "cut away," generally, over the brows; in great contrast to the buffaloes of the South



A female of the Simpson buffalo—Bos caffer simpsoni—near Stanley Pool, Western Congo. (Shot and photographed by the late Rev. George Grenfell.)

African Group 5, in which, as can be seen from my photographs, the immense horn bosses (often whitish grey in advanced age) not only meet in close contact over the forehead (*Bos caffer gariensis*), but in the extreme, southernmost form (*Bos caffer caffer*, the buffalo of Southern Cape Colony and Natal) actually fuse their frontal growth into one continuous horny loss. It will be observed by those who read Mr. Lydekker's new "Catalogue of Ungulates" (Vol. I.), and his paper in the June

number of the Zoological Society's Proceedings, that my tentative arrangement of the African buffaloes differs slightly from his; yet I think it is more consistent with such imperfect records as we possess. There are several points in his new catalogue difficult to agree with, the most serious being his definition of *Bos caffer caffer*, the buffalo of southernmost Africa. This form, which, so far as my own observations go, has the most exaggerated development of the frontal boss, is described as *without* a prominent basal boss. This phrase might apply to the frontlets of very young bulls, and of females, but not to the heads of adult males. It is also

difficult to understand why Neumann's buffalo of Uganda is associated with *Bos caffer caffer*; it is, on the contrary, judging by horns I have seen in Busoga, a member of Group 2 and near to *B. c. æquinoctialis*. For the interest of the comparison I give examples of the principal types of Asiatic buffalo horns: those of the superb *Bos bubalis macroceros* of Assam (British Museum), of the ordinary Indian buffalo (*Bos bubalis bubalis*) from Carl Hagenbeck's collection, and of the interesting little Anoa of Celebes (*B. b. depressicornis*), which is connected with the Indian buffalo by the two intervening sub-species of Mindoro and Borneo. H. H. JOHNSTON.

THE CURLEW.

THROUGHOUT the winter months the curlew almost entirely frequents the seashore, and seldom goes more than three or four miles inland; but in the breeding season they repair to moors to nest in company with red grouse and ring-ouzes, though a few—non-breeding birds—remain on the coast all through the season. The name curlew is obviously derived from the bird's note, though the French "courlis" is a much nearer imitation of the sound. Curlews are excellent on the table in the month of August, when they subsist largely on the fruit of the blaeberry, though after a week or two on the coast their flesh becomes "fishy" and loses its delicate flavour. They are among the shyest of birds, and being possessed of extraordinary eyesight and powers of scent, and since they have not the slightest idea of minding their own business, are most unpopular with the wild-fowler; they seem to take a positive pleasure in giving warning of man's approach to other birds, and even, I have heard, to seals. Last February, in South Uist, I was very anxious to obtain a good specimen of a female shell-duck, and one day, having spied three pairs of this handsome duck, which were quite stalkable, in a small bay surrounded by rocks, I made a detour round the sandhills and was proceeding to crawl and wriggle over the intervening rocks, which, by the way, being extraordinarily slippery and jagged, presented a by no means pleasant crawling surface, when I was detected by some very officious and noisy curlews and oyster-catchers, which, by flying round and round and hurling every insult they could think of at my prostrate figure, at once succeeded in making the shellducks thoroughly wide awake and uneasy, and although I remained perfectly motionless and was invisible to the shellduck, after a minute or two of the curlews' clamour the ducks departed out to sea and I was left anathematising the curlews and oyster-catchers, and, moreover, never got another stalk at the shell-duck. In this case the oyster-catchers were, if anything, the worst offenders, since they continually circled round quite close to me, for

all the world as though the whole flock of them had young ones to protect! When first hatched, young curlews have bills not an inch long, and quite straight. They are very strong chicks, with thick feet and legs. They are at once very adept in taking cover under the smallest piece of herbage, where they squat and remain motionless until the danger has passed, or until their parents cease their clamour and call them up. Although so



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A RECONNOITRE.

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GLANCING RAPIDLY TO SEE THAT NO DANGER LURKED.

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extremely wild in a natural state, in confinement they may quickly be reclaimed, and soon get quite tame, making very charming and useful ornaments to a walled kitchen garden, since they are extremely fond of the common snail and other garden pests. Kept in a garden, they must, of course, be pinioned, but are then very apt to become the prey of rats, which appear to prefer waders of all sorts and ducklings to any

other form of diet ! When kept in an aviary where it is impossible for them to obtain sufficient natural food, curlews may be fed on biscuit meal, duck meal, chopped liver, meat and fish, maggots and worms, and will on this diet live and thrive for many years in confinement. There are various ways by which one may obtain a shot at curlews in the winter ; it is, of course, futile to attempt to stalk them on the open shore ; but after



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SETTLING THE EGGS WITH HER FOOT.

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studying their line of flight, one can frequently get on terms with them by hiding among the sandhills, or by digging a hole in the beach and waiting for the incoming tide to drive them within shot. There is an old hulk on the shore near Fraserburgh, by hiding behind which about 8.15 any December morning one may be sure of obtaining a shot at the curlews as they flight inland to the grass and root fields, where they spend most of the day, and may then be stalked from behind the stone walls and up the ditches. Perhaps the best method of getting them is by flighting at dusk. In North Uist great fun is derived from driving curlews. The guns sit behind the stone walls and one man is sent on ahead, with instructions to walk slowly backwards and forwards over the grass fields in front of the guns, when the curlews keep rising and flying short distances away from the "beater" and eventually come over the hidden guns. I remember a rather amusing incident in connection with this form of shooting in North Uist. We were a party of five guns, and were lined up behind a stone wall while curlews and rock pigeon were being driven to us. The gun, whom we will call R., on my left was a youth who had never previously been out of his native county except to attend his school, and was fearfully keen and rather excitable. (He had with difficulty been restrained from running over slippery, seaweed-covered rocks in pursuit of redshanks, with his hammer-gun at full cock, the previous morning.) It so happened on this occasion that he had most of the shooting, and had killed some four or five curlews, when I, happening to look round, saw a pig, from a herd which had been turned out to forage for themselves, running off with one of R.'s curlews in his mouth. I pointed this out to R., who instantly flung down his gun, which was promptly buried to half way up the barrels in mud, and, I firmly believe, still at full cock (though this he afterwards denied), and started off in hot pursuit, flinging stones, lumps of mud, full cartridges and oaths at piggy, who was now career-ing off with no intention of dropping the curlew, until at last he received a stinging blow in the rear from a large and well directed stone and was obliged to open his mouth to squeal! The professional Norfolk "gunners" are nearly all of them very keen on providing any amateur, who is foolish enough to place himself in their hands for a day's shore shooting, with what they term "a shoot at a party of old curloo," this, to their way of thinking, being the highest form of sport next to "a shoot at a goose." One never hears a Norfolk gunner apply any term but "old" to a curlew; in the same way no Norfolk labourer ever speaks of anything but an "old" hare, and I once heard a small farmer, over whose land we had been shooting, on being asked by our host what game he would like to have, reply, "One of them young old hares, please!"

H. WORMALD.

PROVINCIAL RUSSIA.

Provincial Russia, painted by F. de Haenen, described by Hugh Stewart. (A. and C. Black.)

THE worst of colour-books is that the letterpress is often so poor; but in the case of this volume by Messrs. F. de Haenen and Hugh Stewart the descriptive matter is superior to the pictorial illustration, although the artist's name is given the precedence of that of the author. Mr. Stewart gives a sympathetic and informing account of country life in Russia. It is a pity that he has had to write his book merely as a piece of hack-work, a prose accompaniment to a series of pictorial temptations for the Christmas book-buyer. The book is a pleasant annotation of proverbs, customs, ways of life, geographical and ethnographical facts, and deals with almost all sections of Russia. It is non-political; it is supported with generous quotation from Turgenev Gogol and Chekhov, and is a

sound first book on Russian life. Such interesting proverbs are quoted as "Everybody in the world steals, except Christ—and He would if His hands were not nailed to the Cross," which is something akin to the bourgeois utterance, "Not in debt, not decent." Borrowing, taking, stealing, not paying one's debts make in Russia something that is considered a national virtue. The reason why the moujik so seldom has a kitchen garden lies in the predatory ways of neighbours. He keeps pigs instead—it is difficult to steal pigs. Not that the moujik complains about this; he laughs at it, chuckles over it. He has the attitude of Turgenev's official who liked the country in the summer because then "every little bee took a bribe from every little flower." What in England we harshly and censoriously call "lying," "stealing," "corruption," the Russian treats quite good-naturedly and tolerantly. Russians do not pride themselves on doing their duty and keeping the commandments as our British peasantry do. You need but to stay a month in the Russian provinces or read one or two of Dostoevsky's novels to realise that. Is confusion the result? The British country clergyman would no doubt predict the worst confusion not only locally, but nationally, as the outcome of such ethics. But to quote Mr. Stewart: "The Russian, of whatever station he be, avoids or breaks the law continuously wherever he can do so with impunity. A devotee to orderly system or precision would receive more shocks in a week's stay in Russia than in a lifetime in Germany. Nor will the practical humdrum Occidental be much comforted by the assurance that there are compensations in a club-like, genial spirit which pervades; if the sceptic would only believe it, the whole people accept the confusion with imperturbable good-nature. The Slavophiles themselves cannot deny this trait of the national character, but explain it *more suo* by affirming that whereas Western Europe is ruled by externals, Russia moves along the path of internal order and justice." It is perhaps better explained by the fact that the Russian knows that all the minuses cancel, and that in an infinite series of lies it is just as easy to understand your neighbour as in an infinite series of truths. It is only when lies and truths are mixed that life becomes difficult. The Russian peasants live in an extremely disorderly fashion. Indeed,

Mr. Haenen's pictures do not give at all a true notion of Russian life in this respect. All his peasants are clean and tidy—even his Polish Jew—and you would think he had studied histypes rather in the Ideal Home Exhibition than in Mother Russia herself. Mr. Stewart gives plenty of suggestions of brutality, dirt, dreariness, rottenness, but withal you are left to feel the true values. You know that whatever inroads famine, industrial exploitation and disease have made on the Russian, there is an enormous amount of strength and a wonderful variety of soul and temperament which save the race as yet. The new recruits when they come from the country to the army are so illiterate



A. Brook.

QUIETLY SITTING UPON HER EGGS AT LAST.

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that they cannot understand the difference of right from left, and the sergeant has to tie a bundle of hay to one leg and a bundle of straw to the other and drill him by calling "Hay!" or "Straw!" instead of "Right!" or "Left!" Thus: "Siena!" "Saloma!" They say that when each recruit brings progressive ideas with him to the army and can discuss Karl Marx the days of the Tsardom will soon be over. Not till then! Mr. F. de Haenen has painted for the book his idea of the Siberian convict, of the convicts in the Siberian train, of a hunt with dogs for an escaped convict, of a convoy of prisoners on foot—four most irrelevant pictures since the letterpress has no word on Siberia or on the political prisoner. He no doubt caters for a popular fancy, but he gives a wrong impression of Russia. Such handsome men are seldom seen among prisoners, and, indeed, in provincial Russia you do not see anyone arrested from year end to year end, not in this present era of peace. But it is possible that the artist takes for his model the oleographs exposed for sale in markets and fairs in Russia. These prisoner pictures, his picture of the bear-trap and of the wolf-hunt, of the rich Tartars, of the Kirghiz wooing and of the Circassian lady, suggest this. They are similar to things one sees on peasant cottage walls, and they do not exemplify peasant life in Russia, but rather strange and remote things that would be interesting to the peasants themselves, though not so interesting to us, saleable to the peasants, in fact—oleographs. For the rest, out of the thirty-two there are a dozen that are illustrative of country life in Russia—the Siberian train ploughing through the drifts of snow, the fur-merchant, the rafts on the Volga, the carpet fair at Astrakhan, the country mayor, the tea-sellers at a country railway station, choosing a bride, nuns making hay, blessing the water, blessing the soil before the sowing, a pilgrim returning from Jerusalem. But there is scarcely a picture the subject of which is referred to in the text. The frontispiece is called "A Turcoman and His Wife," and this in front of a book on Provincial Russia is fairly indicative of the general irrelevance of pictures to letterpress. It is a pity that when publishers plan such a book they do not bring artist and describer together and get them to collaborate.



SOUTH of Dorchester, and east of that ancient earth-work known as Marden Castle, the "Hill of Strength," lies Herringston in the open chalk country, a house which has for three centuries been the seat of the Williams family. Herringston takes its name from the old family of Harang or Haryng, who had settled earlier at Chaldon Herring. The Herryngs exchanged land at Chaldon for Winterbourne with the Abbot of Bindon in Henry III.'s reign; and Walter Heryng had licence to crenellate and fortify "Wynterbourn" with stone walls in the reign of Edward III. To Walter succeeded Raymond Harang, who at his death in 1372 held Winterborne of the Abbot of Bindon by the rent of a pound of wax. His son Robert died under age, and it is not certain how the next possessing family, the Filiols of Woodlands, came by it, though there was probably some relationship between them. The manor was held by William Filiol in 1416, and in 1449 John Filiol granted a lease to John Hogies, by which the latter was to "well and fully maintain support and repair all the Houses and buildings of the aforesaid manor of whatever sort they may be, and shall preserve and keep them from wind and Water, especially one building called the Gatehouse." In 1513 the property was sold for £360 to John Williams the younger of Dorchester, in whose family it has ever since remained. The history of the Williams begins from the father of this John, who was probably the John Williams who was High Sheriff of the county in Henry VII.'s reign. The younger John,

also of Dorchester, prospered so well that in a subsidy roll of Henry VIII.'s reign his personal property was assessed at a higher sum than any other man in the county, and before his death, in 1549, he was the master of large acres in Dorset. His grandson John, twice Sheriff of Dorset and member for the county town in 1603, did much to the house before his death in 1617. He was knighted by King James when he came to Salisbury in 1607, and was, according to Croker, "a very worthy Man and a good Patriot, who by his Building and other ornaments much beautified the Place, and commendable lived a fair age and left it to his grand childe John." His characteristic tomb under an arched canopy stands at the east end of the north chapel of St. Peter's at Dorchester. It is a magnificent affair, and once stood under the arch which opens into the chancel; but it blocked up both light and sound, and on the restoration of 1857 it was removed to its present dark position, where the heraldic and other coloured and gilded ornaments, with Sir John in full armour and his lady in stiff early seventeenth century dress, are almost invisible.

Sir John's great grandson died childless, and the bulk of the estates passed to his sister Elizabeth, but Herringston, which had been entailed by Sir John, came to the heir male, Lewis Williams, son of Sir John's second son Robert. Since then Williams has succeeded Williams, intermarrying with many old Dorset families, from his time down to the present day, and it is among the curiosities of long tenure that the last owner, Mr. Edward Williams, who died in 1913, succeeded his



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GARDEN FRONT

"COUNTRY LIFE"



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IN THE DRAWING-ROOM.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



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DRAWING ROOM: DETAIL OF PANELLING.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



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DRAWING-ROOM CEILING.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

grandfather, who came into the property as a child of ten in 1775, so that from this point in the reign of the third to the fifth George there were only two lives at Herrington.

The house lies two miles south of Dorchester, among fields which were thickly planted with elm, oak and horse-chestnut

than the sixteenth century, though some buttresses on the south front, built of old stones in the nineteenth century to support a wall which had begun to give way, are at first sight somewhat misleading. Until early in the nineteenth century it surrounded a square court, with a gatehouse on the north side, over which



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DRAWING-ROOM FIREPLACE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

in the early years of the eighteenth century, and some veteran horse-chestnuts of great girth, which were probably planted in the early years of the 17th century, are grouped before the north front. No trace of the house of the Filiols or the earlier Herrings can be seen in the older portion of the house, which cannot be earlier

than the date 1582. This was, according to a manuscript account of the house written in 1820, "a large semi-circular gateway," and by the same account Edward Williams, after 1803, "was prevailed upon to consent to the modernisation of the old mansion by destroying the quadrangle."

Another note says that this front was decayed, and it was necessary to remove it entirely. At any rate, whether the destruction of the north front was necessary or no, it was done "under the direction of Mr. Leverton, of Bedford Square," the east and west sides were shortened, and the space between them filled in, the house becoming a solid block instead of extending round a court. Two water-colour sketches of the early nineteenth century show the south front as it is to-day (except that it lacks the quite new east wing) and the vanished north front, with four gables, small mullioned windows and an arched doorway. The small domestic chapel was also destroyed by the alterations, and the house was so much changed that the only room whose decoration Sir John Williams would know again is his Great Chamber, now the drawing-room, spared in its completeness, when the "grotesque figures on the wainscot" of the hall were removed. The woodwork beneath and between the divisions of the large windows is grotesque enough, as it gives the painted and carved scriptural subjects in the most approved contemporary manner and costume in excellent preservation. The same fancy breaks out again in the demi-figures of Faith and Charity upon the stone chimney-piece, and the very minute recumbent Hope upon the pediment, added as it were as an after-thought. But the glory of the room is the racy plasterwork of its waggon-vaulted ceiling, put up after Charles had succeeded his more promising brother Henry as Prince of Wales, for in one of the large panels is the Prince of Wales's ostrich feathers and the initials C.P. The ceiling is divided into large square panels, containing lesser ones connected by ribs to the outer, and filled with the fanciful or fantastically rendered animals familiar in the bestiaries and emblem-books—a swan, a pelican in his piety, a merman and mermaid, three interlaced fishes, a fox and so on, together with the arms of England, and an angel holding a scroll with the letters G.I.E.D., the initials of *Gloria in excelsis Deo*. Three large open pendants are placed in line along the centre of the ceiling and are divided by smaller bosses.

The preservation of this room, which remains an example of the rich and exuberant fancy of its day, must have been due to its picturesqueness; and the Great Chamber, as at Gilling, remains in the midst of a house which has been much modified by later generations.

J.

MY FIRST STAG.

HOW many who read this, I wonder, will have wetted a line in the Gillaroo Loch above Inchnadamph. It was in the Black Corrie, at the foot of the hill just beyond the loch, that I grassed my first stag. Years ago, before Sutherland was exploited as it is now, I rented a vast tract of ground in Assynt, from Altna-Galluch above the smaller loch right down the east side of Loch Assynt, halfway to Loch Inver. It was glorious, wild ground, within hail of forests on both sides. There were often deer crossing, though it was all under sheep; the shepherds knew all about deer, and from them my head-gillie and stalker, Tom Fraser, learnt if deer were seen. I fancy before my time, and possibly after, many a wandering

stag met his fate and was salted down to help out the store of braxy mutton during their long winter in the farmhouses in the hills. When the stags began to roar and the weaker stags were driven to seek fresh ground, deer were sure to cross over from the forest. The difficulty was to locate them before they passed on—a wandering stag will cover over fifty miles in a night when there are no other deer to join. There were flats of good grass and shelter below the hills, where an old hind would come season after season to calve and feed there through the summer with her calf and yearling, and often attract a stag to join her as the love season came on.

Such were our chances of getting a few stags; it meant hard work, long days, with all the difficulties of approaching deer through scattered sheep; but it was grand sport. Many a day was blank

in sight of deer that it was impossible to get at. They often seemed to depend on the mountain sheep as sentinels, and the sheep were as wild as the deer. I have lain in the heather through a long afternoon in sight of deer, hoping they would get up and feed down within possible approach before dark, and waited in vain. So far North it gets too dark to shoot very early, as the sun sinks behind the western hills, and next day those deer might be miles away back in the forest. There is no sport to equal stalking, only one needs to be young and in hard condition to fully enjoy it. Sometimes we went eight or nine miles to begin our work, if wind served to stalk back towards home. I used to start out with Tom in the lightest marching order. The climb was stiff to our high ground, where in places a great deal of the top was thrown up over hundreds of acres, as by volcanic action, in scattered cubes of rock of all shapes and sizes; I used to call it "lump sugar" as the nearest comparison. It was wicked ground to walk; it necessitated stepping from edge to edge; a slip meant a broken shin, possibly a broken leg.

With a stag spied the other side, the ground had to be faced; I own I hated it. It was splendid to see Tom Fraser step over these rocks with his head up. He was a grand specimen of the Highlander—six feet in his stockings, with an ankle like a woman's, and one of the most natural born gentlemen I ever met. If luck was good and we toasted "blood" over our scanty lunch, and had made our stag safe from the ravens with a handkerchief flying from his horn and well covered with heather, then with what satisfaction we turned our way down hill, making, if possible, for some shepherd's house, where a drink of milk, laced with whisky, put new life into us and sent us racing home. I know no drink that will revive a thoroughly tired man like whisky and milk, or that you can work on so long without solid food, though while I was shooting, or expecting to shoot, I never drank anything but water, and that by sips only as we passed each spring. Never drink burn water; drink as little as you can—in hard condition a man is rarely thirsty. Everything must have a beginning, and though many a better head looks down on me from my walls as I write, there must be a "first stag" and lucky is the man who kills his first chance.

Years ago rattle went the gravel at my bedroom window one morning early in September. Waking, and striking a match, I looked and found it was 4.30 a.m. and that Tom Fraser was below. "The deer are up in the Black Corrie, Captain," he said. "All right; I'll be down directly. Wake up, Kenneth, and get some tea." I was



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THE HALL.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

soon through my bath and into shooting gear. Sending for Dixon, my English keeper, I told him to take my glass and keep an eye on us. The Black Corrie was well in view with the glass from the first rising ground at the back of the lodge, about one and a-half miles straight, with Ben More rising straight up beyond the Gillaroo Loch. The wind was blowing right to us, but the ground was so open near the little loch that, to make the stalk, we had to make a circuit of some three or four miles round and come in on the high ground above the deer.

I gave Dixon orders to get the breakfast packed in the panniers and watch for the shot, then to bring a brace of dogs and the guns with the pony, and come right on and meet us at the loch. Then I started with Tom, and after a longish round, though the walking was easy, as we were well out of sight of the deer, we came in on the high ground; the wind blowing over us carried our scent high above the deer. After some creeping and crawling along the edge Tom drew in, till looking over he found the deer straight below him. The hill rose sheer up from the corrie, and the deer were feeding close in to the wall of rock some one hundred yards below, so that the shot was almost perpendicular. Creeping past Tom, I looked over, and for the first time found myself face to face with a stag. There were seven—a goodish-bodied stag with seven or eight points, another fair beast and five smaller. I guessed the distance, a short one hundred yards, and having to aim straight below me (the best stag was feeding straight away), as he raised his head I drew a bead just behind his shoulder points, in line with his back-

bone. I had plenty of time, but it was rather nervous work for a first shot. I knew there was a gallery watching from the lodge, Dixon and John Sutherland (the Duke's keeper), who had worked the ground before I took it, and was rather a hostile critic of our English ways of conducting sport. Holding my breath, I squeezed the trigger, and down went my stag. The others, not seeing where the danger was as the smoke was above them, turned and stood scattered, gazing round. I took the second stag broadside as he stood, and running a few yards, he fell shot through the body. My first was a lucky shot. The line was right, but the shot went high; it struck just behind the base of the antlers and came out between his jaws, killing him in his tracks.

I looked at my watch; it was just after seven o'clock. Never shall I forget the glory of that morning as I stood on the high ground with my first two stags dead on the grass below.

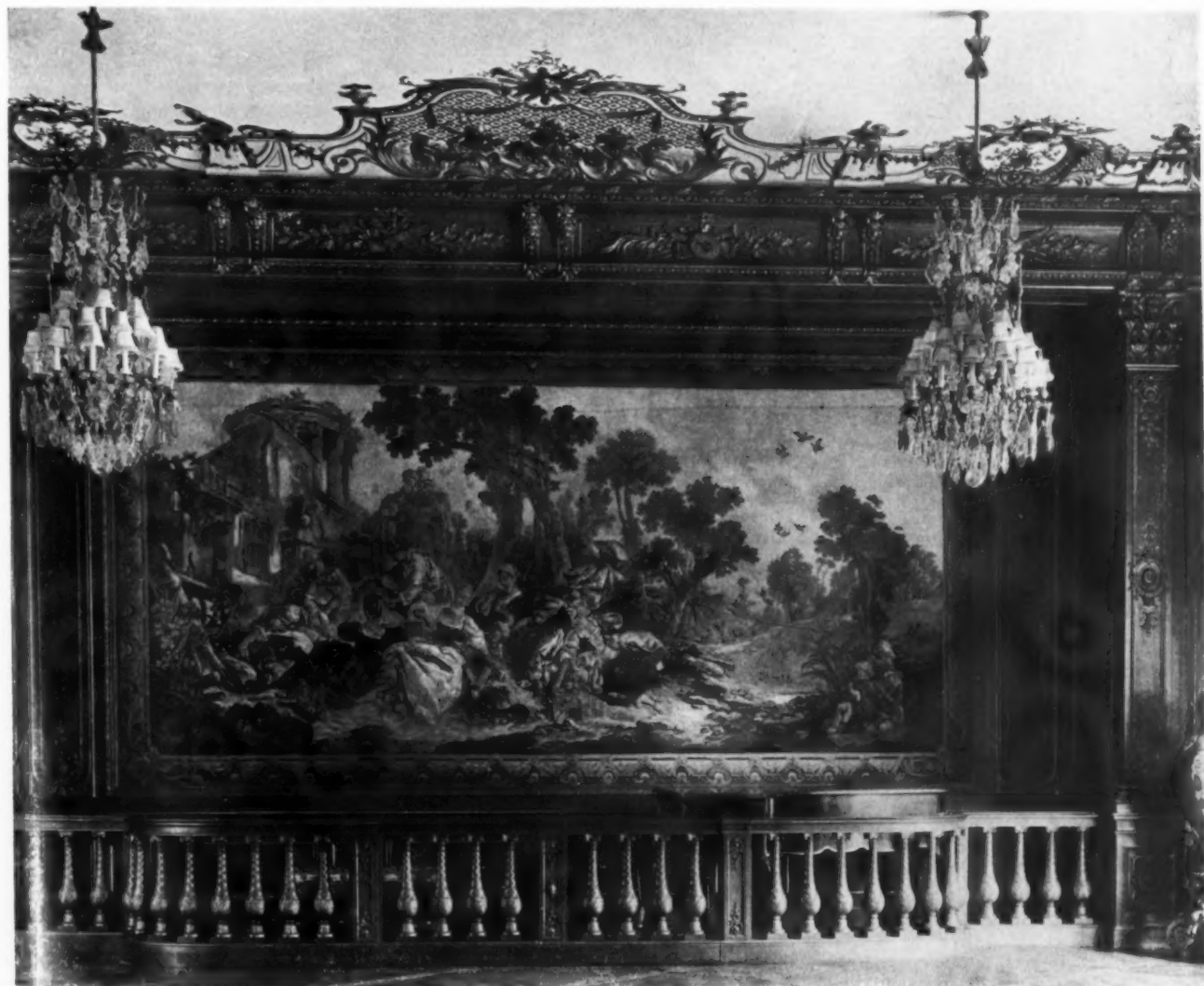
Finding with some little difficulty a short way down to the lower ground, the last rites were performed by Tom, while I examined and crowed over the direction of the bullets. By this time Dixon had come up with the pony and breakfast was laid upon the grass. Afterwards loosing old Jet and Juno, I shot my way home with Dixon. Everything seemed to go right—birds came thickly, the dogs could do no wrong. I was back to the lodge by twelve o'clock with fifteen brace of grouse and my two stags to enjoy an extra good lunch and a well-earned siesta. A day to be marked with a *white* stone was that of "My First Stag."

LAUDATOR.

THE BEAUVAIS TAPESTRIES AT HURSLEY PARK

THE "Noble Pastoral," a set of tapestries in the ballroom at Hursley Park, the property of Sir George Cooper, Bart., near Winchester, may be cited as a splendid example of the productions of the Beauvais manufactory at its highest excellence, and than which no tapestries and few works of art are more highly valued or more keenly sought after. The pecuniary value of these and

similar hangings has so steadily and rapidly increased that there appears to be no limit to its ultimate figure, and collectors may well sigh to think of the time when the master of the workshops at Beauvais was well pleased to obtain a third or even a fourth of the sale price of the tapestry as his profit. When these tapestries are shown in fitting surroundings as at Hursley, one can understand how this intense desire for their possession arises



from love of the beautiful alone. High-born lords and ladies of the Court, clad after the highest fashion in blue, pink and yellow silks, toying with birdcages and nets, or fishing beneath soft blue skies near picturesque ruins, or making love near a fountain, all these are but exquisite souvenirs of the artificial ideals of the most artificial Court that later history has recorded. But the charm in the design of these scenes and the wonderful technical skill of the craftsmen in rendering them have made

decoy birds in cages, are seated towards the left of the composition, while only a yard or two away on the right is a net with wild birds fluttering over it, as if desiring to be captured in order to gain the *entrée* to such a distinguished company. This panel is signed "F. Boucher, 1755," and is, as the others, framed in a border imitative of carved and gilded wood with cartouches containing the Royal fleur-de-lys of France in the angles.

Then the "Fountain of Love," one of Boucher's happiest efforts, has not one single faulty line in its composition. The shepherdesses in pale blue and pink skirts, the sleeping girl in white corsage with blue skirt whose cheek is being tickled by a youthful swain in pink, the sheep and the dog, complete a scene full of soft, seductive languor, which is further enhanced by the cupid-crowned fountain and umbrageous trees in the background.

The "Fishing" panel on the east wall consists of an isolated group of figures occupying the middle of the composition. The disciple of Old Izaak sits, rod in hand, flanked by two ladies, one wearing a white bodice, pink corsage and purple skirt, the other a yellow dress, while a youth places the finny prey in a barrel of water. The signature of Boucher is repeated here, but reversed, a practice not unusual in tapestry.

On the east wall also hangs the "Flute or Flageolet Players" — a Court lady being taught to pipe by a boy in a beautiful coat and buff breeches, to a dancing dog on the left. Another musical couple appears in the background, while a girl and swain, more languishingly disposed, occupy the foreground. On a rock is inscribed "F. Boucher, 1755." On the north wall hangs a panel of similar subject, in which a lady in crimson and pink is accompanied by a flute-player clad in pink coat, yellow sleeves and breeches. Cupid, with a goat, stands by, and on the right are two remarkably fine figures, one wearing a pink gown with yellow sleeves, and crimson petticoat. If the arrangement of figures in this panel is not so pleasing as in the others, its colour makes ample amends. (Illustrated in *COUNTRY LIFE*, October 30th, 1909.)

In addition to these tapestries, there are two charming narrow panels in the same style. In one, a blue-coated boy chats to a girl wearing a red skirt and yellow apron, and holding a basket of eggs, which gives the panel its title. The other represents a boy in a red jacket tending sheep. The tapestries have a common height of 10ft., and vary in width in order of description—20ft. 10in., 8ft. 11in., 10ft. 11in., 8ft. 11in.,



Copyright.

THE FLUTE PLAYER.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

probability or possibility seem of less importance than it is in a fairy-tale told to a child. Take the largest panel, "Bird-catching," which is fitted into the east wall of the ballroom. Like the others, it is a harmony in light mellow tints, with brighter notes of red and purple, and foliage inclined towards yellow rather than green, under a soft light blue sky. Lords and beautiful ladies making love, chattering, or encouraging



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THE FOUNTAIN OF LOVE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

roft. 11in., the narrow panels being each 4ft. 8in. "La Noble Pastorale" or "Les Beaux Pastorales" was designed by Boucher, in 1764, for the apartments of the Dauphin at Fontainebleau. The set consisted of six panels, namely, "The

Fountain of Love," "The Flute-player," "The Fisher," "The Bird-catchers," "The Déjeuner" and "The Shepherdess." The last named was woven only once, being for the King. Under the directorship of Charron at Beauvais, so great was the

popularity of the designs that the first five were reproduced ten or twelve times from 1755 to 1778, for such clients as the King (who ordered no less than five sets), MM. de Beaumont, de la Live d'Epinay, Douet, d'Haucourt (two sets), Amfreville, de Bussy and de la Barre. One set was added to the stock in the dépôts either at Beauvais, Paris or Leipzig, for the tapestries made at Beauvais were retailed in the marts of Europe, unlike those of Gobelins manufacture, which were woven exclusively for the decoration of Royal palaces or for Royal gifts.

With the "Noble Pastoral" there was woven a set of furniture coverings *en suite*, the subjects corresponding to those of the hangings; for instance, the picture on the back of the sofa at Hursley represents flute-players, a boy teaching a dainty little lady, who holds a lamb by a blue ribbon, while the seat is decorated with a shepherd in red coat, mauve waistcoat and buff breeches, courting a shepherdess. The scenes in the furniture are enclosed within garlands of roses, flowers and fruit, daintily tied with ribbons and placed on a dark crimson ground. The sofa measures 4ft. 2½in. in height, the seat being 6ft. 4in. long and 2ft. 5in. deep. One of the chairs belongs to the "fisher" panel, as represented by a boy wearing a pink coat and yellow breeches wielding a fishing-rod, while on the seat is depicted another youth with a pole. There are two chairs with pipers on the backs, one playing yellow pipes with blue ribbons to a dancing dog, the seat of the chair displaying a girl in striped petticoat; the other piper, clad in pink and blue, plays blue bagpipes, and the chair-seat shows a lady in a pink skirt feeding poultry. The arm-chairs are three, of which one belongs to the unique panel of the "Shepherdess," as evidenced by the figure which decorates its back. The lady, wearing a rose-coloured dress with yellow sleeves, and holding a shepherd's crook, is accompanied by a lamb. The seat of this chair recalls "Bird-catching," by the shepherd holding a living bird in each hand. This subject is introduced in the seat of another armchair—a youth tying a cage, in which is a call



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THE FISHERMEN.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

bird, to a pole near a bird-net, while upon its back is depicted a lady in a white gown and pink trimmings carrying a basket of flowers. And beautiful, too, is the shepherdess, clad in her pink gown, white petticoat and blue-edged hat, who sings from a song-book on her lap, decorating the third arm-chair. The seat shows a sister-shepherdess with a wreath of flowers. These arm-chairs are 3ft. 7½in. in height, 2ft. 5½in. in width by 2ft. 2in. deep. Of the two *fauteuils*, one is decorated with boys and girls fishing.

The cushion, adorned with bathers, bears the signature, "F. Boucher, pxt.," while the other shows a duck-shooting scene, the cushion being devoted to a boy and girl with fruit and flowers. The furniture is made complete by a beautiful fire-screen, the subject being a shepherd boy in rose-coloured coat warming his hands at a wood fire, and beside him sits a shepherdess. It measures 3ft. 7½in. high by 2ft. 3½in. in width.

W. G. THOMSON.

LITERATURE.

A BOOK OF THE WEEK.

TO write the life of one's grandfather must in any conceivable circumstances be a delicate and difficult task. There is a vast difference in the outlook between a brilliant young man who was entering his teens in 1813 and one who writes his life in his prime in 1913. The case is worse with men of letters who live by jumping on their grandparents. It is very difficult for us in these days to reconstruct the literary atmosphere of the early part of the nineteenth century. Naturally, much that passed current then as pure gold is now called base metal. The present Lord Lytton had to face this difficulty when he was called upon to write the biography of his grandfather, *Edward Bulwer First Lord Lytton* (Macmillan), and he has done so with admirable candour and honesty. There is a fine detachment in which, after concluding the life, he summarises his ideas and gives us an estimate of the position which the first Lord Lytton holds. This position is a curious one. For a long time past the critics have been extremely severe with the Lytton novels, but the general reader has never wearied of them. It would indeed take more than any merely theoretical objection to a book to make us believe that such favourites of our early days as "Rienzi, the Last of the Tribunes," or "The Last of the Barons," had not a magic of its own. The favourite of the present writer used to be "Ernest Maltravers," and we are glad to find that in its pages Lord Lytton has often found expressed the inmost thoughts of his distinguished ancestor. "Ernest Maltravers" always seems to us to have been closely related to Disraeli's "Contarini Fleming." Disraeli and Lytton were strong literary friends, even at the time when they were much divided in politics, and probably both were consciously or unconsciously influenced by "Wilhelm Meister," a book in which Goethe had produced that revelation of inmost thought and individuality which each rendered in his own way, Lytton in "Ernest Maltravers" and Disraeli in "Contarini Fleming." Over and over again we find "Ernest Maltravers" quoted here as the authoritative exposition of Lytton's thoughts, and there can be little doubt that Disraeli, when he conceived the idea of writing the biography of a poet and his impressions, revealed more of himself than he knew. Lord Lytton says of his grandfather that he was remarkable in many capacities, but supreme in none. Or, in his own words:

Lord Lytton undoubtedly ranks among the leading men of his generation, remarkable rather for the universality of his genius than for his supremacy in any one particular sphere. He was not supreme either in politics or literature, yet in one respect he was unique. No other man of his generation reached so high a level of attainment in all the varied departments of his activities. Distinguished as a novelist, as a dramatist, and as an orator, he was also essentially a man of the world. In business capacity, in judgment, in imagination, in brain power, in industry, he was equally remarkable—in the last quality almost unrivalled. When the number and variety of his works are considered, one is struck with amazement at the amount of intellectual labour which he crowded into the seventy years of his life.

This strikes us as a very fair and impartial appreciation. It is much easier nowadays to follow the lead of Thackeray and laugh at the premeditated fine writing into which Lord Lytton every now and then breaks out, than to analyse and understand the fascination which his narrative style possessed for his contemporaries. There is no denying the statement that his characters were not drawn from the life, that his women were freaks of the imagination and his men conceptions of a flamboyant fancy. But during his busy and bookish life he had thought wisely and independently, and his own character was so rich and varied that it enabled him to project upon the board many others that possessed a share of his own attractions. It must be remembered that the imaginative writer, whether novelist or dramatist—and Lytton was both, and a poet and pamphleteer thrown in—is to a great extent the creation of his age. It is because he reflects the ideals of the moment that he becomes popular with those among whom he lives. Even Tennyson, in his day considered the most broad-minded and liberal of poets, is reckoned bourgeois when judged by the standards of to-day. Lord Lytton, by the by, gives an absolutely frank and unbiassed account of the famous passage of arms between Lytton and Tennyson, which began with the attack

of the former in "The New Timon." Living when he did, when Sir Walter's great fame was near and untarnished, he was bound to be a romantic, and the colour of his romance was no doubt traceable to the facts in his own unhappy life. For it is no pleasant story Lord Lytton has to relate. Edward Bulwer's childhood was not a sunny one. He was the third and youngest son of General William Bulwer, the representative of an old Norfolk family. He came into the world when the love that had once existed between his father and mother was wearing very thin. His father was a man of violent temper and strong language, and his treatment left a permanent mark on his wife:

You might see, in her old age, that she had passed through some crisis of great fear and great sorrow. At the least surprise or alarm a passing, painful twitching of the nerves altered the features of the face; there was on her brow the weight of the old anxiety, and round the corners of her mouth those lines which are never ploughed but by grief.

The father seems to have taken a dislike to his son, and when he died suddenly in 1807 the grandfather, into whose care he fell, was not more tender-hearted. In many pages of his biography he relates the story of a birching which never seems to have passed from his memory. It was, indeed, fated that Bulwer should not win much strong affection. "A man more to be admired than loved," was the description of a competent observer.

In view of the facts that he did not get on well with any member of his family, and that, practically speaking, he formed no really intimate and loving friendship, if we except that with John Forster, and even it rested on a literary basis, it is impossible to describe Lord Lytton as having been amiable. He was extremely sensitive to every form of criticism, and rather too ready to repel it with voluble defence and counter attack. He had, as an old nurse quoted by Lord Lytton put it with an amusing malapropism, many "attacks of fluency." But still there was an undeniable greatness in the man. He was accepted as the friend and rival of Dickens in his lifetime, and many of the greatest of his time—Carlyle, for instance, and Disraeli—to take two men wide asunder as the Poles, held him in respect and esteem. His grandson has succeeded in placing before us a literary portrait which, without ignoring the blemishes in the original, largely perhaps on account of the frankness with which these are recognised, has brought before us a living man who was a giant in his day. The only contemporary with whom he comes into fair comparison is a Frenchman, the elder Dumas, whose fertility of invention and extraordinary capacity for work equalled, if they did not exceed, his own. This biography will probably be read as long as the Lytton novels retain a vogue.

LIFE HISTORIES OF INSECTS.

Insect Biographies with Pen and Camera, by J. J. Ward. (Jarrold and Sons.)

THE science of entomology has advanced so greatly within recent years, we know so much more than we did of the relations between man and insects and between insects and disease, that every encouragement should be given to promote a branch of study which is repaying from every point of view. The book under consideration ought certainly to have the effect of turning the attention of the inexperienced reader to a fascinating pursuit, which lies at his very doors and which will lead him into many pleasant places, if not to actual new discoveries. The author addresses himself to the layman, and he writes in clear and simple language without any technicalities, so that his book should appeal to all those who, though they have little or no knowledge of the subject, yet "take an interest" in natural history, and it should be a valuable help to the increasing ranks of the teachers of nature-study. The life-histories of a dozen or so of common insects are lucidly described, and they are illustrated by a series of remarkable photographs. These are not photographs of "set" butterflies impaled on hideous pins and with their wings outstretched to impossible angles, but pictures of the living insects taken in their natural surroundings. Among these may be mentioned the beautiful pictures of the Swallow-tailed butterfly, the Puss-moth, and the various insects described in the chapter entitled "Winter Butterflies." In the account of fleas the author under-estimates the variety of these creatures when he says that there are a hundred or more different kinds; more than four hundred species have been described, and doubtless the tale of them is not yet told. The gardener as well as the amateur naturalist may learn something from this book, as, for instance, that the numbers of "greenfly" may be kept down by growing certain herbs which attract the harmless hover-fly; the grubs of these latter, we are told, devour "greenfly" at the rate of one a minute! Although he apologises for

doing so, we are still of the opinion that Mr. Ward makes a mistake in introducing the chapters on mites and spiders into a book with the title he has chosen. When you set out to instruct the unlearned, it is as easy to be accurate as the reverse, and the spiders could well have waited for another volume.

THE TRAVELS OF A BOTANIST.

The Land of the Blue Poppy: Travels of a Naturalist in Eastern Thibet. by J. Kingdon Ward, B.A., F.R.G.S. (Cambridge: University Press.)

THE Land of the Blue Poppy lies, roughly, on the Yunnan-Burmese-Thibetan borders. The present volume records the author's experiences there while collecting plants. A courageous traveller and an enthusiastic botanist—indeed, "Travels of a Botanist" would have been a more explicit sub-title—he gives a full account of the flora to be met with in this little-known region. He has much, too, of interest to say with regard to the different tribesmen he met. In the last chapter, "The Land of Deep Corrosions," he attempts to explain the peculiar physical characteristics which prevail in the neighbourhood of the three great rivers, the Mekong, the Salween and the upper portion of the Yang-tze-Kiang. It may well be called the Land of Deep Corrosions, for it is possible to cross these three great rivers in a journey of less than a week. To gain any idea of the great differences in climate and flora within a very limited area and the contributory causes, it is necessary to study carefully Mr. Ward's book. The Salween-Mekong watershed, on account of the great height of K'a-gur-pu, still receives a very big rainfall, but by the time the winds have crossed this great range they have been robbed of nearly all their moisture, and the Mekong-Yang-tze is, consequently, grim, bare, bleak and sterile. The Lutzus, one of the most interesting tribes encountered, originated, in the author's opinion, as a jungle tribe, though they are now in a comparatively advanced stage. Their use of the crossbow, as well as their rope bridges, also suggests this. The extreme limit of flowering plants on the Mekong-Yangtze divide is about 18,000ft., the snow-line being at the enormous elevation of 19,000ft. Mr. Ward says but little about the animal life of these regions, though he mentions the Budorcas, deer and precipice sheep, presumably burchel. Takeri are also found, apparently, on the Irrawaddy. There are five maps, illustrating the country traversed, and two appendices. The first contains a preliminary and incomplete list of plants collected, compiled by Professor Bayley Balfour, F.R.S., and Mr. W. W. Smith; the second, a list of small mammals collected, now in the Natural History Museum, which have been identified and described by Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S. They include two new species. The photographs deserve special mention. The majority are most artistic, and also give a very good idea of the country. They are extremely well reproduced. Mr. Ward is improving as a writer, and his book is a valuable contribution to Asiatic literature. It is dedicated to the memory of Harry Marshall Ward, the author's father, Professor of Botany for many years at Cambridge.

ANIMAL ANECDOTES.

The Inner Life of Animals, edited by Ernest Bell. (G. Bell and Sons.)

THIS is a collection of stories, compiled from various sources, of animals and their wonderful ways. The anecdotes, some of which put rather a severe strain on the reader's power of credulity, are classified under the various headings "Jealousy," "Courage," "Reason," "Grief," etc., but one is inclined to doubt in many cases whether the editor has ascribed the action of the animal to its proper cause. The statement, that in studying the comparative psychology of man and animals one finds that there is no marked or definite line to be "drawn between the lower human and higher animal races," is one with which many will disagree. This little book ought to encourage lovers of animals to observe more closely the actions of their pets, and it should be useful to teachers of nature study.

SPORT IN BENGAL.

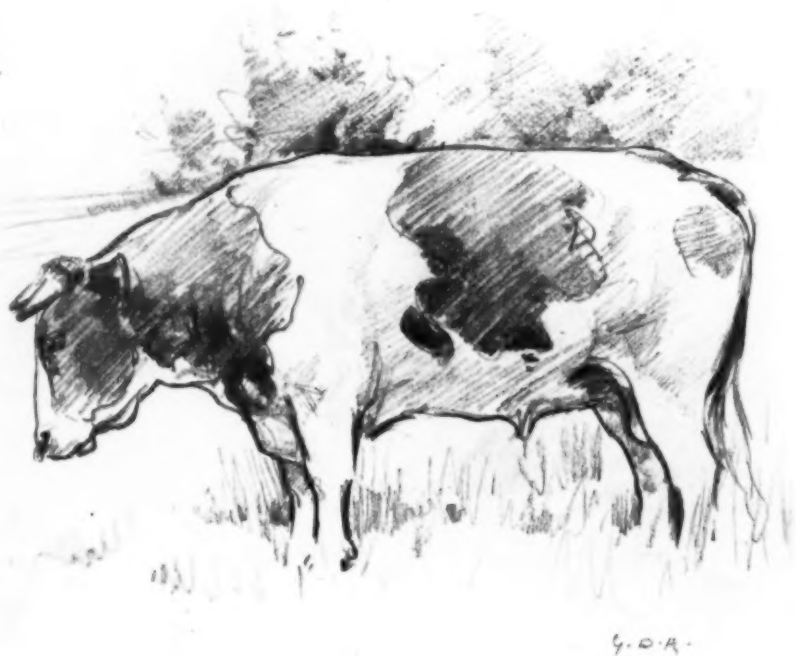
Tigerland: Reminiscences of Forty Years' Sport and Adventure in Bengal, by C. E. Gouldsbury, late Indian Police. (Chapman and Hall.)

THIS book is really a collection of adventures and stories related to the author by a friend who prefers to remain anonymous. Having started his adventures as a stowaway at the age of fifteen, he becomes in turn cabin boy and seaman, a trooper (in this capacity taking part in the Indian Mutiny) and police officer. In all these different rôles he passes through many exciting adventures, which are well related by the author. Tigers are done to death, leopards (including a man-eater which accounted for one hundred and fifty-four persons before it was killed) swell the bag, and there are notes on sambhur, black panther, ibex, etc. A tale of a bear and its victim, related in Chapter XIV., reminiscent of Kipling's "Truce of the Bear," is good. The many stories are not entirely confined to sport, and depressed parties round the camp fire are enlivened by ghostly yarns. Truth is stranger than fiction, but the history of the tame pig and the

friendly Arab steed in Chapter XXX, strains the belief. The majority of sportsmen encountered deserve the name. Not so a gentleman named Jones, whose chief desire was a record ibex head. Having stalked his herd, which were at the same time being stalked by a black panther, the does gave the alarm. The bucks ran together in a bunch, and Jones, hurriedly bringing up his rifle, fired into the group, getting off four barrels before they were out of range. The wretched animals then winded the panther and, becoming confused, gave the intrepid Jones, loading and firing as quickly as he could, the opportunity of getting off sixteen more cartridges. His subsequent investigations revealed three dead animals, thirteen out of his twenty shots being accounted for!

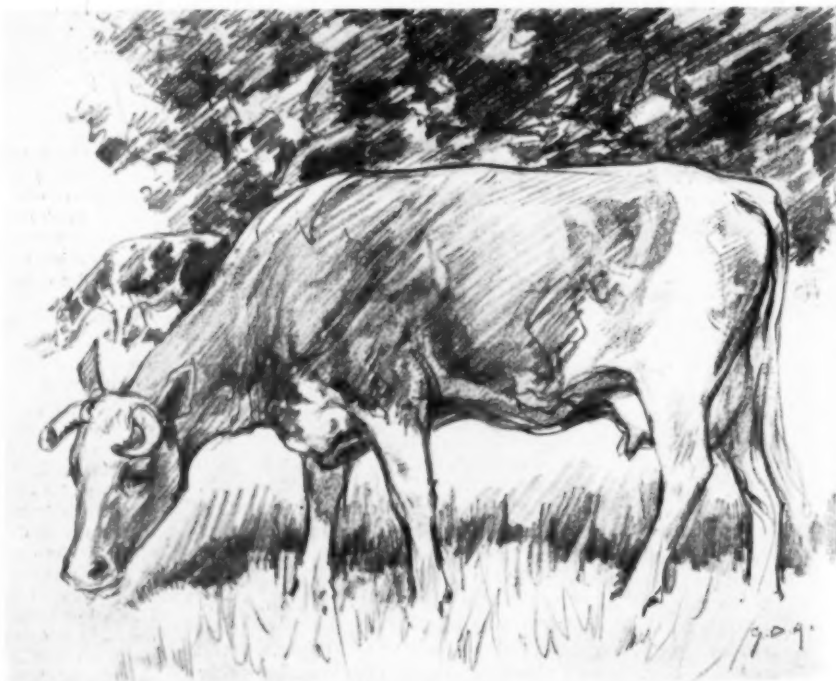
HOLSTEIN CATTLE.

NO country has made more progress in dairy work during recent years than Holland. The science and practice have been taken up by a people who are singularly thorough in their methods, and the result is seen not only in an increased production of milk, but in a much more beautiful breed of cattle. The Dutch



STOCK BULL AT "HET HUIS TER AA" ARNHEIM.

cow of old was not held in great repute in this country, except on account of its capacity for giving an extraordinary quantity



A DUN AND WHITE ENGLISH BRED HOLSTEIN "HEDGES MISS HOOK."

of milk. Often for this purpose a dairy farmer would include one or two in his herd, and they were conspicuous by reason of the black and white colour—by their belted appearance, in fact. But anyone judging the modern Holstein by the old Dutch standard would make a great mistake. Purists, like Professor Wallace, object to the use of the word "Holstein." He takes the United States Consul's Reports on Dairy Farming as his authority, and shows that there were some nine different breeds used in Holland, and he says: "Although Dutch cattle are often referred to as 'Holsteins' there is in reality no breed of that name." In an authority quoted by himself occurs the following explanatory passage of our English shorthorns: "The breed, formed by the mixture of young stock with very superior imported Continental cattle, became familiarly known as the Dutch or Holstein breed, under which name it extended northward from Northumberland and became naturalised in the South of Scotland." It is noteworthy that his description would apply almost exactly to the cow which Mr. Armour has sketched above the title "A Typical Cow at Alkmaar." He says: "The head of the Holland cow is long and narrow and light, with broad mouth, and horns always pointing forward, their black tips usually being turned upward. The long neck, with but indifferently developed dewlap, frequently shows a slight depression on the ridge; chest and back are broad, and the line of the back, with rare exceptions, straight to the tail. The body is long, limbs flat and high, hind legs of cows often inclining to be knock-kneed. The most



A TYPICAL COW AT ALKMAAR.

profitable Friesland variety is very heavy, with fine bones, delicate skin, and in colour mostly white with black, grey-blue, grey, or even dark brown spots."

The real truth of the matter would appear to be that the Holstein is now, at any rate, just as true a breed as are the majority of our own breeds which are governed by a society and a Herd Book. In olden times crossing took place to an almost unlimited degree, and it was not till fairly late in the eighteenth century that English breeders began to aim at a type and to keep to it. The Holsteins nowadays come as true as shorthorns, and, as recent prices testify, they have during the last few years become exceedingly fashionable in England. They are not only good in themselves, but their appearance makes them extremely suitable to an English park. One of the leading herds is that at Hedges Farm, near St. Albans, where Mr. and Mrs. Brown make a point of breeding as perfect a herd of Holsteins as can be seen in this country. It will be noticed from Mr. Armour's sketch that some of those that are English-bred are as good as any found in Holland.

The first occasion on which Holsteins obtained separate classes at the Royal Show was in 1911, when the exhibition was held at Norwich. Specimens of the breed were exhibited as far back as the exhibition at Windsor in 1889. The Norwich entry was not a satisfactory one, as only twelve animals came before the judges, and they were by no means good examples of the breed, with the exception of one bull, which



SOME CHARACTERISTIC HEADS AT "HET HUIS TER AA."

was sold for fifty guineas at the auction. Since then the English breeders have carried on their work with characteristic enthusiasm, multiplying their numbers and vastly improving the quality of the cattle.

During the late summer, when the International Show was held at The Hague, a considerable party of the British Holstein Cattle Society made a pilgrimage to Arnheim, close to the Rhine and the German frontier, for the purpose of studying on the spot the reclaimed farm of Johanna-Hoeve. They found a herd of red and white Meuse-Rhine-Issel cattle, which might be useful to Mr. Lloyd-George if he ever succeeded in bringing the Highlands into cultivation, as they flourish on poor, high

ground and are a hardy dual-purpose breed. They found three breeds of cattle in Holland, the black and white, the Gironingen (black in body and white in head), and the breed to which we have already referred. At the show itself they were disappointed to find that the dun cows, which are favoured in this country, are not recognised in Holland, where they are treated as sports. Thus history is repeating itself, and in Great Britain we are fashioning a breed of Dutch cattle which is going to be altogether different from the Dutch ideal. We do the same thing with our Jerseys. In fact, buyers from this country never choose from an Island herd the cattle that are most prized by the native breeders.

ON THE GREEN.

BY HORACE HUTCHINSON AND BERNARD DARWIN.

IF MR. OUIMET COMES OVER HERE.

WHAT we want is a British Ouimet. Of course, it is all very well to say that. It is always interesting to have a bright particular meteor appearing in the firmament, but it is not an apparition that comes to order. It is of value just in proportion to its rarity. But if we could have some young fellow, English or Scottish, to blaze out with the brilliancy of this young player of America it would add immensely to the interest of our golf in the immediate future. Duncan is doing his best in this way, but, after all, he is not a juvenile in the sense of Mr. Ouimet; his juvenility is only relative to the discreet age of that triumvirate whose dignity he is assailing. The nearest thing to the Ouimet act that has ever been done in this country was when Mr. Gordon Barry, before he went up to Cambridge as an undergraduate—won the championship of the amateurs at Prestwick, defeating on his way to victory Mr. Graham and Mr. Maxwell (I think these were his illustrious victims) in a single day. That was great work, though it was hardly as great as Mr. Ouimet's.

But if a British Ouimet is perhaps something too big in the way of a prodigy to ask for, what we certainly may expect, and must look forward to with interest, is a visit in this country from Mr. Ouimet himself. It is said already that he is forming projects to that end, and that he is likely to be here next year. We all devoutly hope that he will. At the same time it has to be confessed that the prospect of his visit suggests a difficulty. So far as I have been able to learn—of course I have not sworn statements or affidavits—Mr. Ouimet was carrying clubs for hire—a perfectly honourable occupation—at an age at which this act of servitude would prevent the carrier from playing as an amateur, according to our definition. That is to say, in fact, that though he is a perfectly "clean amateur" as the Scots call it, according to the regulations of the United States Golf Association, which has a slightly different definition of the amateur, or rather of the professional, from ours, he would not be "clean"; he would be tainted with the touch of professionalism, over here. He would not, in fact, be eligible for our amateur championship.

Now that, as we all, probably, must think, would be a vast pity. It would be a personal hardship on Mr. Ouimet, and it would deprive our Amateur Championship of a possible increase of interest. It seems hard on any man who has conformed with the law of his own land so that he is perfectly eligible to play among amateurs, to find himself debarred from competition in their company when he goes to another country; and it is especially to be regretted in consideration of the very cordial relations now happily existing

between amateur golfers in this country and the United States and the frequent going to and fro of players between the two countries. It is so much to be regretted that it is, perhaps, worth a little trouble to see whether we cannot find a way out of it. It would be too much to suggest that either country should modify its amateur definition so as to make it harmonise with that of the other. There is, however, another not impossible way. Why should not both countries come to an understanding, and pass a rule to the effect that, although the national definition is binding on all of that nation, still, that any man who is qualified to play in the Amateur Championship of the country of which he is a native shall not be precluded from entry for the Amateur Championship of the other, even though he may have unwittingly done some act which would injure his amateur status in that other country. You see, it is too much to expect a man, as he comes to years of golfing discretion, to look across the sea, to study the regulations of a distant land, and to make sure that he does not commit some act which would be offensive in the light of those regulations. It is really enough for any man to be sure that he does not offend the regulations of his native country, and it is as much as is to be expected of him. And if he keeps himself above suspicion in regard to them, then it seems as if it were only his right to be able to claim a like spotless innocence across the seas.

Here the management of most things pertaining to the amateur championship belongs to the delegates of the clubs which subscribed for the cup which the amateur champion held for a year, and of one or two clubs besides which have been admitted later into their holy company. They have the management of this side. On the other, the ordering of all such things belongs to the United States Golf Association. In the present position of golfing affairs it seems far more likely that we shall see over here a brilliant young American player, an amateur according to their code, yet debarred by a technical offence against our rule from amateur competition here, than that we shall be sending to America any who will find himself in a like dubious position over there. In consequence, it seems to behove us to be the first to move in the matter and to admit such a one, as an act of international courtesy, to our amateur society. Unfortunately, our machinery is cumbersome. It would need, presumably, an instruction from each of the managing clubs to their delegates, and this might take long. Even then it might be a question whether their action would not be *ultra vires* until it had the sanction of some other authorities; but probably their sole authority, if unanimous, would not be questioned. But unanimity, again, is not a condition easily attained. The one point on which we all must be



YVES, THE ONE-HANDED PROFESSIONAL AT LA BOULIE.

unanimous is that it would be a thousand pities, as well as a real hardship, if Mr. Ouimet were to come over here and because of his comparatively recent club-carrying were to find himself precluded from playing for our Amateur Championship. We should all regret that.

H. G. H.

THE MAIDEN AGAIN.

THOSE who know their Woking and have in the past spent unhappy times mountaineering on the eleventh green may be interested to hear that the Alps and Himalayas on that putting green have been considerably modified during the autumn and shorn of their most precipitous grandeur. There is still some quite difficult putting to be done, however, more especially when the hole is cut on the little plateau in the right-hand corner. I have lately heard rumours of a proposed change at a much more famous hole, namely, at the Maiden at Sandwich. It is suggested that one more attempt should be made to restore to it something of its admittedly lost magnificence, though the new hole, if it be made, will be entirely unlike the original Maiden of old days. Anybody who knows the country well may remember that on the further side of the green, as it is now played, there is a hill, and on one side of that hill a kind of natural plateau. Many people have sat upon it to watch those putting in agony below. As I understand it, it is proposed to put the green on this plateau and play at it across the present green. This would, of course, involve bringing the tee forward into the hilly country, so that the hole would no longer be open to the reproach of blindness. To one seeing it just a little mistily in his mind's eye, it seems to be a good hole; but it is not made yet, and all sorts of things may happen before it is.

MR. MALIK OF INDIA AND OXFORD.

On Saturday last I had my first opportunity of seeing this year's Oxford team, when Woking played Oxford at Woking. It was rather a curious match, since Woking won five and halved one out of the first six games, and Oxford, coming with a great spurt, won the last four and so only lost by a single point. The most interesting feature of the match was the play of Mr. Malik, the Indian undergraduate, whose imposing white turban makes him a most picturesque

figure upon a sombre English golf course. Mr. Malik, who is, by the way, also a good cricketer with, as I am told, a beautiful style of batting, must certainly possess some of the quickness of eye and suppleness of wrist of a "Ranji." He has only played golf something well under two years, and now, in successive matches, he has beaten two quite good players upon their native heaths. His style of driving is rather a curious one, since he takes the club a long way round his neck, with his hands rather noticeably close to his body. He has, however, a very fine, free follow-through, and certainly hits the ball both gracefully and easily. His putting is also graceful and natural in appearance, and, what is more, effective in result. As one would naturally expect from an inexperienced golfer, his iron play is the least convincing part of his game. It seems something too loose, and the club is taken a comparatively long way back for a short shot; but he has, obviously, a great natural gift for the game.

A GREAT FINISH.

Moreover, whether or not Mr. Malik be habitually a weak iron player, I saw him pull a match out of the fire by playing two shots with iron clubs as perfectly as need be. The finish between him and Mr. Julian Martin Smith was really most exciting. Mr. Malik had been two down with four to go, and when I came up with him he had got one hole back, and stood one down and two to play. Going to the seventeenth he half topped his second with a brassie—usually one of his best shots—and had a useful slice of luck, since his ball ran through a bunker and lay clear some forty or fifty yards short of the hole. Mr. Martin Smith, who was just in the rough, played a fine, cautious, steady second with a heavy iron, and lay just inside his adversary. Then Mr. Malik took an iron, and, playing a really wonderful run up over undulating country, laid the ball three inches from the hole and squared the match. To the last hole Mr. Martin Smith, playing the odd, was just too strong with his second, and went over the green. Mr. Malik had now to play that nastiest of shots, the pitch over the cross bunker from the soft and broken ground that lies on the right of the course. He played it to perfection and with the utmost boldness, the ball stopping within five or six feet of the hole. He might very likely have had a three if he had needed it, but, as it turned out, four was good enough to win a capital victory. As against Mr. Tindal Atkinson, at Sunningdale, he won after being two down with five to play, he has shown himself a most resolute finisher.

IN THE GARDEN.

WISLEY'S NEED OF A COLLECTOR.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—Among your many readers there are doubtless a large proportion of those persons whose names may be found in that distinguished list of thirteen thousand who are Fellows of the Royal Horticultural Society, and I therefore venture to hope that you will kindly ask for the views of those among them who are presumably not only interested in gardening, but are also loyal friends of that fine and important society, on the following criticisms, which are made in the spirit of the lover who cannot bear imperfections in the beloved. There has never been a time I imagine, like the present when so many new and exciting plants and shrubs have been sent to this country from all parts of the world, when there is hardly a nurseryman of repute who does not send some one to the mountain fastnesses of Spain, Italy or China armed with enthusiasm and a trowel. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Forrest, both sent out by the enterprise of two of our biggest nursery-gardeners, are doing splendid work of this kind, and a special tribute to the admirable and scientific methods of Mr. Forrest was paid by Professor Bayley Balfour at the Primula Conference of the Royal Horticultural Society in April of this year. And yet—the rock garden at Wisley is dependent on the generosity of those Fellows who may choose to furnish it with their gifts of charity and superfluity. Surely the time has come when the Royal Horticultural Society should have a collector of their own. Ought it to be a fact that we owe practically every new introduction of recent years, not to the Royal Horticultural Society, but to private individuals, or the enterprise of nursery-gardeners? I am not expert enough in figures to make any deduction from the balance-sheet of the Royal Horticultural Society, published in the August Journal, but if the Society cannot afford a collector, surely among that thirteen thousand there are, at least, one thousand who would gladly give one guinea a year towards this object for the honour of the Royal Horticultural Society and in the interests of horticulture. I am told that the objection to this would be that such subscribers would demand their annual pound of flesh in return in the shape of new plants; but, personally, I do not believe this would be so. I feel sure that they would willingly wait until such time as the plants had been proved and propagated at Wisley, when, possibly, a priority, according to the amount subscribed, might be arranged at the time when we all of us receive that exciting and unexpected little box of plantlets from Wisley. Again it may be urged that there is a danger in all the indiscriminate collecting that is now going on of certain rare species being exterminated by the zeal and ignorance of the amateur rock gardener, but this is really no argument, as anyone who has visited even the smallest corner of the European Alps knows that "rarity" means "locality," and that in their own habitat these things grow in such countless millions that all the nurserymen in England could not exterminate them. By all means, let the Swiss protect their Edelweiss, if they think it worth doing. We do not want it; and, if we do, there are lawns where it grows in the short Alpine turf like English daisies—just as there are other places where you may sit and munch your unappetising hotel sandwiches on an acre-wide carpet of *Eritrichium nanum*. Again, it may be said that this work should be done by Kew, but the gardens at Kew are not only more limited in space, but are hampered by their proximity to London smoke and fog. Wisley gives up a large amount of ground and labour to the trials of such things as violas and dahlias, not to mention such utilitarians as green peas and potatoes, which is work, I would humbly suggest, that might be equally well done by any nurseryman; but if lack of space is any argument against an extensive trial of new trees, plants, shrubs, or Alpine plants, surely much useful work might be undertaken by wealthy Fellows with large gardens and expensive troops of highly trained gardeners, and it would also be done more usefully in different parts of England, under more varied climatic conditions—and it would not be a difficult

matter, one would think, to arrange for an annual report from these Fellows, or an inspector from the Wisley Gardens. There is one more point I would like to urge. Referring to paragraph 14 of "Notes to Fellows" in the last number of the Journal, I find the following: "In a Royal Horticultural Society garden every single detail should teach something," etc. This is an admirable maxim, but I should like to mention (in a low voice) that many of the labels in the rock garden at Wisley teach things which were better untaught. Now, I do seriously think, Mr. Editor, that the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society ought to be above reproach in this matter. It is not an easy thing to name saxifrages, for instance, but there are people who can do it, and I maintain that it is a comparatively easy thing to avoid such mistakes as labelling a very common and well known linaria as "requiriloba,"—which is neither Latin nor anything else—to mention only one instance. No doubt many of these misfortunes arise from Fellows sending plants with illegibly written labels (I would not like to say with falsely written ones), and one does not expect the best rock foreman in the world to know everything; but there are plenty of experts, and why should not some one be asked to see that, at any rate, the labelling is correct? I do not ask for such subtleties as learned distinctions between *Edraianthus* and *Wahlenbergia*, or between *Androsace*, *Aretia*, or *Douglasia* for the powers that be are not long together of one mind with regard to these high matters; but might we not have, at least, the last name but one? I trust that these remarks may be taken as written in no unfriendly spirit, for on the contrary, they are written by one who has the honour of the Royal Horticultural Society very closely at heart and owes it much.—No. 3986.

PLANTING DAFFODILS IN GRASS.

ALTHOUGH late planting of Daffodils is not advisable, it frequently happens that the work has of necessity to be deferred until the middle or even the end of November. Those planted at the present time will give really good results, though the flowers may be a little later and possess rather short stems, providing sound, well-ripened bulbs are secured. In no other position do the graceful, golden flowers look so well as on a grassy mound or slope, where the green turf and partially wooded surroundings provide a setting for the blossoms that is at once natural and pleasing. But some discretion is needed in arranging the bulbs, or rather, the less arrangement attempted the better, taking a lesson from Nature, who groups these flowers of spring into large or small irregular colonies, with a few stray plants connecting, as it were, one colony or drift with another. Formality must not, on any account, be tolerated, and planting must be done with a liberal hand, a pleasing effect at a distance being usually desirable. Many good gardeners make a point of throwing the bulbs a few feet into the air and then planting each one where it falls. This certainly avoids formality to some extent, and if the general outline of the main groups is kept irregular, the effect will be at least on the right lines. Almost any soil except heavy, undrained clay will suit the more vigorous kinds of Daffodils, and the actual planting does not entail a great deal of work. Special tools for planting bulbs in grass are now obtainable from most seedsmen, these carving out a circular patch of turf and soil sufficiently large to comfortably take one bulb

at a depth of about five inches, after which the soil and turf are replaced. Almost any strong-growing Daffodils are suitable for growing in grass, a few of the best being *Princeps*, *Emperor*, *Empress*, *Tenby Daffodil*, *W. P. Milner*, *Golden Spur*, *Frank Miles*, *Sir Watkin*, *Barri conspicuus* and *Mrs. Langtry*.

SOME GOOD SHRUBS FOR FORCING.

During the early days of the year our greenhouses and conservatories owe not a little of their charm to the many hardy flowering shrubs that have, with the aid of artificial heat, been forced into growth and induced to flower some weeks in advance of their proper season. Of late years a great deal of attention has been given to this phase of gardening, with the result that many kinds of shrubs have been found amenable to this treatment. Some nurserymen now make a speciality of supplying shrubs specially for this purpose, and this note is penned as a reminder that the end of

P. serrulata, and the double-flowered *Peach*. Of ornamental Apples, *Pyrus floribunda*, *P. spectabilis* and *P. Scheideckeri* are the best. Azaleas of the mollis type, such as *Anthony Koster*, are particularly valuable, and we must not omit such *Spiræas* as *arguta*, *prunifolia* and *Van Houttei*. *Wistaria chinensis*, with its long, pendent racemes of blue flowers, is always welcome, and quite large plants can be purchased, established in small pots

THE WATER-LILY TULIP.

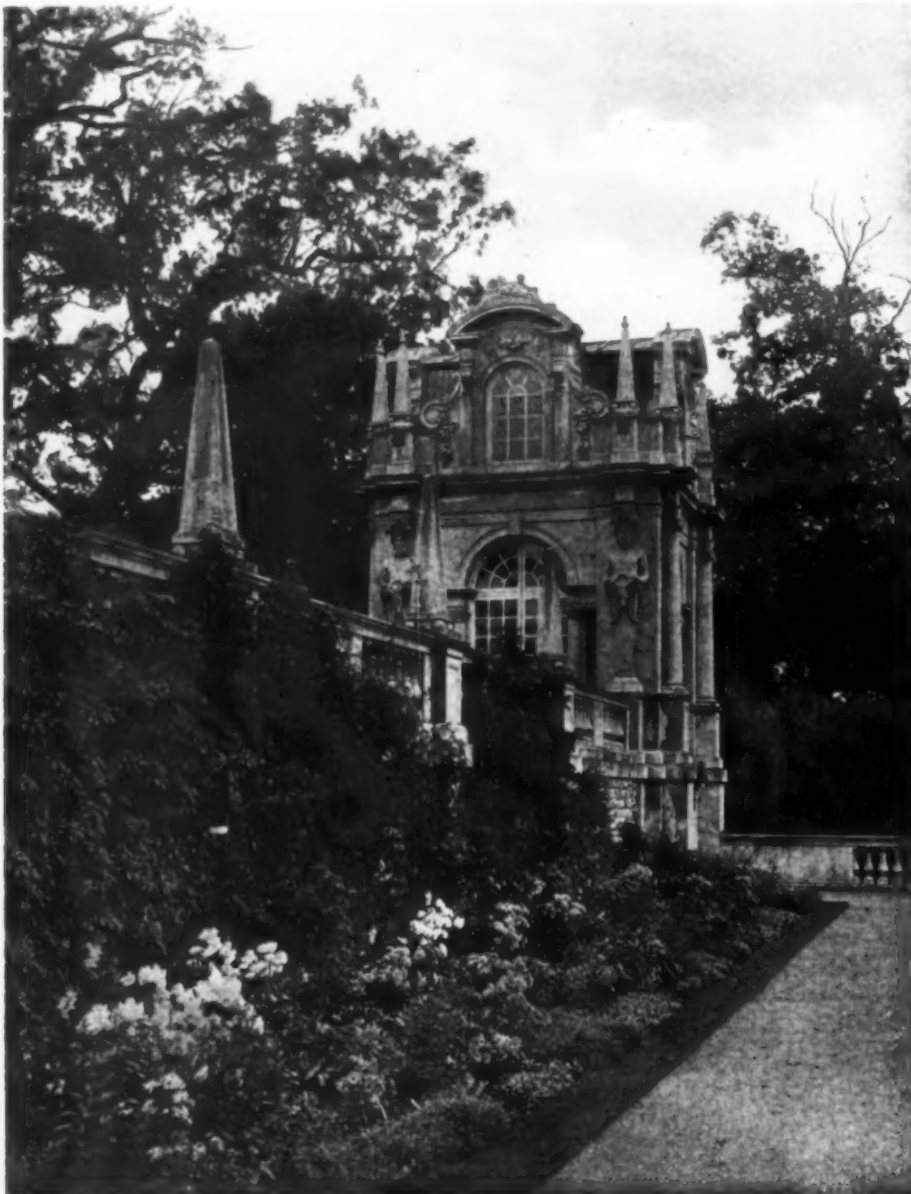
Now that bulbs of various kinds are being committed to the earth, a few, at least, of the beautiful Water-lily Tulip should be planted. This Tulip, which flowers early, often before March has departed, will be found in catalogues under the unwieldy name of *Tulipa kaufmanniana*. The flowers are rather long in the half-opened stage, and are then very charming; but it is when they are fully blown that their exquisite beauty is fully revealed.

Then one is able to appreciate the soft, creamy white tone of the petals, with their rich golden yellow base, the flowers at that stage having a decided resemblance to a miniature Water-lily; hence the popular name. The plants thrive in any soil that suits other Tulips, but a sunny position ought to be chosen, otherwise the blossoms will not open freely. Unlike the other early-flowering Tulips, the blooms of the one under notice last for some considerable time, and a bed filled with bulbs now would be a particularly effective feature in the spring garden. There is a variety named *kaufmanniana aurea*, the blooms of which are of rich golden yellow, streaked on the outside with scarlet, but at present it is rather scarce and too expensive for planting outdoors in all but the most choice positions. Both are excellent for growing in pots, but resent hard forcing with a high temperature.

FLOWER BORDERS IN AUTUMN.

Owing to the exceptionally mild weather and the absence of night frosts, flower borders in the Southern Counties have been brighter and better furnished this autumn than we ever remember seeing them before. This has been particularly noticeable in cottage and other country gardens, where the small-flowered, old-fashioned *Chrysanthemums* are largely grown. As a rule, these do not flower outdoors, owing to the shoots getting badly damaged by frost early in October, and their quaint blossoms, which have this year developed to perfection, must have come as a pleasant surprise to many who have not seen them before, except in a few conservatories, where they are grown for old acquaintance sake. But the display of outdoor flowers has not been limited to these gardens. In those of more ample dimensions, where borders of mixed flowers rightly play an important part, the autumn effects have been bountiful and good, as will be seen in the accompanying

illustration, from a photograph taken a week or two ago at Copped Hall, Epping. In this border outdoor *Chrysanthemums* occupy a prominent position, but there are many other charming though less conspicuous flowers included. Among these are *Gaillardias*, *Snapdragons*, perennial *Sunflowers*, late *Phloxes*, flowering *Sages*, *Sea Hollies*, *Pyrethrums*, flowering for the second time this year, *Dahlias* and *Fuchsias*. On the wall at the back, choice shrubs, such as *Choisya ternata* and *Ceanothuses*, find welcome shelter from cold winds in winter, and during the summer provide a suitable background of green foliage that serves to emphasise the colours of the flowers grouped in the border. Now that the planting season is at hand it may be advisable to draw attention to the necessity for deep and thorough cultivation of the soil. Without this and ample nourishment in the form of short, well-decayed farmyard or stable manure, it is useless to expect good results. H.



AN AUTUMN BORDER AT COPPED HALL, EPPING.

October or early November is the time when they ought to be purchased. When received, the shrubs must be promptly potted, a mixture of two parts good sandy loam and one of leaf-soil suiting most kinds, except *Rhododendrons* and *Azaleas*, which need a rather liberal addition of peat. Large pots are neither desirable nor necessary, those that will comfortably take the roots with a fair amount of soil, rammed firm, answering best. After this is completed, the pots are usually plunged to their rims in coal-ashes outdoors, to remain there until well into December, when those kinds that naturally flower earliest are taken to the greenhouse, where a temperature of about 50deg. to 55deg. Fahr. is maintained. After a week or two this may be safely increased by 10deg. The following shrubs are all suitable for this early forcing: *Deutzia gracilis*, *Forsythia suspensa*, such ornamental Plums as *Prunus Pissardii*, *P. triloba flore pleno*, *P. japonica*,

WILD COUNTRY LIFE.

A NEST-BUILDING TREE-FROG.

THE tree-frog represented on the annexed photograph was discovered, a few months ago, in the Colombian Choco by Dr. H. G. F. Spurrell, and belongs to the genus *Agalychnis*, a close ally of the genus *Hyla*, to which our European tree-frog belongs, differing only in the shape of the pupil, which is vertical instead of horizontal. It is also allied to the *Phyllomedusa* of Tropical America, which have also a vertical pupil, but in which the fingers and toes are free or very shortly webbed and conformed for grasping, the inner digits being opposite to the others, so that these frogs deserve to be called quadrumanous. Two species of *Phyllomedusa* have been observed to make nests by folding leaves over the eggs attached to them, these nests overhanging pools, into which the larvæ drop when having reached the tadpole stage, their further development taking place in the water just as in ordinary frogs. A similar habit has now been observed by Dr. Spurrell in the *Agalychnis* which I have described and named after him.

The first specimen was reported to Dr. Spurrell to have been found at the top of a high tree that had been felled on March 30th, 1913. On April 2nd he took a pair in embrace on a leaf overhanging a pool of water two feet below. The pair were in the act of breeding, and the eggs, as they were extended, were being fixed to the upper surface of the terminal third of the leaf (probably belonging to the family *Anonaceæ*), in double rows following more or less regularly the neuriation, the very prominent ribs affording a support for their attachment. On the leaf (here represented) sent with the specimens the breeding operations of which were suddenly interrupted, fifty-nine eggs were attached, and seven more adhere to the right foot of the female, showing that she uses her feet for the purpose of fixing the eggs. According to a sketch made by Dr. Spurrell, another leaf on the same stalk was already beset with eggs (laid by the same female?) and folded over to form a nest. The eggs resemble those of the midwife toad (*Alytes obstetricans*) in size (diameter three to four millimetres) and in the tough gelatinous capsule, but differ in the upper pole being brown, and in not being strung together.

Various Indian and African tree-frogs of the genera *Rhacophorus* and *Chiromantis* (family *Ranidæ*) also make nests in trees for the protection of the early stages of their offspring, but these are formed of several leaves and the eggs are surrounded with a white, spittle-like froth in which, after a time, a wriggling mass of tiny larvæ may be found. In an Indian *Rhacophorus* it has been observed by Mr. H. S. Ferguson that a species of blow-fly intrudes to lay in the nest, the maggots feeding on the frog's eggs and passing their pupa stage in the dried up frothy mass.

Dr. Spurrell is to be congratulated on the addition he has been able to make to our knowledge of so highly interesting a subject as the nesting habits of frogs.

G. A. BOULENGER.

INTERNATIONAL PRESERVATION OF NATURE.

The first conference of the International Commission for the Protection of Nature will be held at Berne on the 17th of this month under the auspices of the Swiss Government. The commission owes its origin to a resolution passed at the International Congress of Zoology held at Graz in 1910, on the initiative of Dr. Paul Sarasin, who has been nominated president of the forthcoming conference. Since the year of the Graz Congress Dr. Sarasin has been occupied with the organisation of the commission, and he has secured the official help of the Federal Government. It is satisfactory to learn that, with a few exceptions, all the great countries of the world will be represented officially at the Berne Conference. One of the objects of the conference will be to endeavour to bring into closer relation and to co-ordinate the work that is being done in the various countries for the protection of the indigenous fauna and flora, and in this connection it is proposed that each country shall have its own society or societies, which would be members of an International Federation of Societies for the Protection of Nature, with the permanent International Commission for an executive body.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE TOAD'S RESURRECTION DAY.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I should be interested to learn whether any of your readers has had an experience similar to that which I shall now describe. I was walking through Cwm Wood, near St. Asaph, North Wales, some years ago on the first warm day in March, when I began to notice an astonishing number of toads and frogs, though the toads were vastly more numerous than the frogs. They were crossing the path; they were rustling through the leaves on either side of the ride; the ground on every side was alive with them. The majority seemed to be common toads, though I think I noticed some natterjacks among them. Halting for a little to look around me, I observed with increasing interest that some toads were actually heaving themselves up out of the loose soil and from under the beds of leaves quite close to me. I had evidently arrived in time to witness the resurrection day of the local toads, when they were first emerging from their hibernation. First, one would notice a slight tremor in the soil, then some cracks would appear in it; next, the head of a toad would emerge, closely followed by the forearms, after which the rest of the body was drawn slowly out to the surface. Then the toad stretched himself, rested, and soon began to hobble off. It was clear from the first that all the toads and frogs in the wood were heading in one direction, so I moved towards this objective, which I guessed would be a pond near the middle of the wood. On reaching this pond I found that my surmise was correct. The surface of the pond presented a busy scene.

It was rippled everywhere by couples of breeding toads and frogs, while new arrivals were continually splashing in to join in the revelry. One could hear the hoarse croaking of the frogs and the "gluck-gluck" note of the natterjacks. As well as I can recollect, there were strings of new spawn already in the water, but, as yet, little or no frog or toad spawn.—F. J. I.

AN EGG-STEALING WEASEL.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—Though it is well known to all country folk that weasels suck the eggs of barn-door fowls, it is not often, perhaps, that an opportunity occurs of examining the procedure of this wily little animal while actually engaged in carrying off an egg. Hence the following account of the doings of an egg-stealing weasel, which I had from an eye-witness, may interest some of your readers. A farmer who lives near me, while walking along the high road a few days ago, in company with his lad, noticed a weasel pushing something white through the grass by the roadside. A closer inspection showed that the white object was a hen's egg, which the weasel was trundling along in front of him at a pace which, considering the resistance of the grass and the respective sizes of the weasel and the egg, was surprisingly rapid. So bold was the little thief and so intent was



NEST-BUILDING TREE-FROG.

he on his work that he continued to push his prize along, though the farmer and his son stood within three or four feet of him. Only when they came nearer still did he leave the egg and scamper up the bank, from the top of which he watched the intruders impatiently while they examined the egg, which was then replaced on the grass and the spectators stood back a pace or two. Immediately the weasel darted back to the egg and began a series of attempts to carry it up the steep bank of the hedge, holding the egg between its mouth and forepaws. Time after time the egg would be raised half way up the bank, only to roll down again into the ditch below, followed by the undaunted weasel. With praiseworthy forbearance the spectators refrained from annoying him, and finally went away, leaving the indomitable little animal to work out his problem unharmed. As my informant put it: "When we pyked off he wor still agate on yon hegg job."—F. J. I.

A PHOSPHORESCENT WORM.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—This evening, when walking back to Abbotskerswell from Newton Abbot, I saw a bright circle of phosphorescence in the road. A moving spot of light showed the whereabouts of the author of the illumination. I picked up this object, and, examining it with the help of a lighted match, found, to my surprise, that it was not the glow-worm I expected, but a thin, pink worm about two and a half inches long.—FLEUR-DE-LYS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ECONOMY AND TASTE IN COTTAGE BUILDING.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—Your criticism of my standard cottage, built in many places at a cost of £110, revolves mainly around the point of size. Those who have seen it, in a very large majority of cases, do not share the view you express. I note that you accept the standard of the Departmental Committee. May I say that my standard cottage, when enlarged 2ft. in length, with the width unaltered, exactly complies with the dimensions of this Report. This 2ft. of additional length is secured at a cost of £15. My contention is that this extra 2ft. is not a necessity; that where the minimum outlay is sought the smaller cottage will serve. You say the cottage is not new. I reply (1) that my scheme complies with all reasonable building bye-laws; (2) that the cost is £110 for the smaller cottage and £125 for the Departmental Report cottage, and that these facts, together, put forward something that is quite new, for nothing of the kind upon a commercial basis has yet been done.—ARNOLD MITCHELL.

[Mr. Mitchell is right in saying that our main criticism of his cottage is directed to its very inadequate size. If the majority of those who have seen it are pleased with its size, it must be that they are not well informed as to the floor areas and cubic contents which are necessary if rooms are to be reasonably healthy. Mr. Mitchell says that if his cottage is enlarged 2ft. in length it complies with the standard of the Departmental Committee; but we must challenge his figures. The table printed below gives in parallel columns the dimensions (1) of the original cottage built at Merrow, (2) of the same cottage with 2ft. added to its length, and (3) the minimum dimensions laid down in the Report of the Departmental Committee of the Board of Agriculture. This table shows that Mr. Mitchell's enlargement does not increase any room enough to bring it up to the Committee's standard. The living-room is still 12 square feet and 104 cubic feet short. The ground floor parlour or bedroom remains unaltered. The scullery, or washhouse, is 29 square feet and 232 cubic feet short, and the larder is still less than half the size which the Committee requires. The principal bedroom is considerably improved in floor area, which only falls short by 7ft., but is deficient in the much more important point of cubic content to the amount of 170 cubic feet. The second bedroom upstairs fares even worse in comparison. It is only three-quarters the standard size in point of floor area, and 250ft. short in cubic content. Mr. Mitchell's contention that his original cottage can be brought up to the Committee's standard at a cost of £15 therefore falls to the ground completely. On his repeated claim that the original cottage is large enough, we have only to say that the whole of expert opinion on the building of cottages for the labouring classes is against him. When we turn to the question of the novelty of the cottage, we reply that £125 for the Departmental Report cottage would be quite new, if it were not quite untrue, as demonstrated above. It was shown in COUNTRY LIFE of November 1st that the planning of the cottage, so far from being new, is practically identical with that of Mr. Troup's prize cottage at the Letchworth Exhibition. The claim that the cottage will pass all reasonable bye-laws is meaningless without a definition of what is reasonable, but we are quite certain that any bye-laws which allowed the cubic content of rooms to be cut down so drastically could not be called reasonable. Mr. Mitchell's own experience with the District Council of Chelmsford is not likely to encourage others to build in the same fashion. We are unable to detect any novelty in the design of the cottage, except in a reduction of size, which would, if adopted, lead to a marked lowering of public health in rural districts.]

	Superficial Feet (Floor areas).			Cubic Feet (Available air spaces).		
	Mr. Mitchell's Cottage at Merrow.	Mr. Mitchell's Cottage if Lengthened two feet.	Committee's Minimum Requirements.	Mr. Mitchell's Cottage at Merrow.	Mr. Mitchell's Cottage if Lengthened two feet.	Committee's Minimum Requirements.
Living-room ..	140 ..	168 ..	180 ..	1,112 ..	1,336 ..	1,440 ..
Parlour or bedroom ..	67 ..	67 ..	65 ..	530 ..	530 ..	520 ..
Washhouse ..	51 ..	51 ..	80 ..	408 ..	408 ..	640 ..
Larder ..	7 ..	11 ..	24 ..	55 ..	87 ..	192 ..
Bedroom 1 ..	119 ..	143 ..	150 ..	832 ..	1,030 ..	1,200 ..
Bedroom 2 ..	77 ..	77 ..	100 ..	550 ..	550 ..	800 ..

—Ed.]

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I notice that the article published in last week's COUNTRY LIFE on the Merrow cottage says, "It was stated in the *Spectator* of October 18th that the design of the cottage has been copyrighted." What does this mean? I remember some correspondence you had about architectural copyright, but I cannot understand what process could be employed to copyright an architectural design. Can you throw any light on the matter?—J. BLAKE.

[It may fairly be claimed for COUNTRY LIFE that it did some service in securing the inclusion of architecture in the Copyright Act of 1911. A very instructive correspondence was published in our columns, and at the suggestion of the then President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, this correspondence, with some valuable appendices and an introduction contributed by Mr. John W. Simpson, was issued in pamphlet form. Reference to the Copyright Act does not reveal any method whereby a book, a picture, music or an architectural design may be "copyrighted." The old arrangement whereby books were entered at Stationers' Hall lapsed when the new Act came into force. It appears to be the case that no steps need, or, indeed, can, be taken by the owner of any original artistic work in order to establish his copyright in it, except, of course, an action at law in the event of infringement. We therefore have not the least idea as to what is meant by the statement that the design of the Merrow cottage has been "copyrighted," and the article published in COUNTRY LIFE of November 1st seems to show that no copyright in it can exist.—Ed.]

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—Lord Portman is right when talking of cob cottages. The best I have seen made in the same way were in Burgundy, and there they did not stop at one

storey, as in Wilts and Devon, but made a good two-storey house out of the stiff loam or clay of the country. So far as I could see, they put a thin layer of concrete every yard, I suppose to hold the wall together. I cannot imagine a more excellent wall for a house or cottage, and with a good, low roof and good eaves a more comfortable house there could not be. When whitened or plastered the effect is as good as that of any other house. Here we have the cheapest of all material abounding in many districts of heavy clay land, and it would make the best and simplest cottage or farmhouse that could be made. In the hurried run I made through the country I could not take particulars, but some people living there might tell us all about it. Such walls would lend themselves to a good design; they would be the most fireproof of all, and far better than Mr. Strachey's hen-house—combustible hen-house.—WM. ROBINSON.

RE FARMERS AND GAME DISPUTE.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—In your issue of November 1st your leading article has the following upon the Land Question: "Many of us who have lived in the country all our lives do not remember a single case in which a farmer has received notice on account of a dispute about game. Here is need of more evidence." I am in a position to furnish evidence of a case, and hope you will find space for its details in your next issue, as follows: A Duke had one of the largest farms in a Western county to let, and doubtless had a good number of applicants to select from. It would be admitted the chosen tenant was one of the best farmers, and desirable in every way as a tenant. He found the land had been much neglected, his sheep died in quantities, cattle did not do well. The cause was mysterious. He found three limekilns on the estate; neither of them had been used for many years, and it occurred to the farmer the want of lime was the cause of sheep and cattle not prospering. He had all three kilns lighted, and practically dosed the estate with lime, which proved successful, but very costly. Some of the land was so full of couch that it took four horses to work a scarrifier, which had to be lifted and cleaned of couch about every ten yards. The above and other bad conditions led me to say to the farmer, "Are you justified, as a yearly tenant, in sinking all this capital?" His reply was, "I shall get it back in years to come." "But," I replied, "suppose, when you have completely cleaned the land, you should get notice to quit?" "Oh, they will never turn me out," was his reply, and his opinion upon that would have been endorsed generally. Now for the evidence you seek. The shooting was let to a gentleman a few miles away, who preserved by keepers, and nearly always when shooting had as his companion the Duke's agent. The damage done by game got very serious to corn and root crops, but the farmer could get no compensation. He called in an expert to assess the damage done by game and asked for payment. He received notice to quit, and, believing the Duke would not approve if he knew the facts, the farmer went to London to interview the Duke, who was in his house but refused to see the farmer. I am conversant with the whole case, being the farmer's "BROTHER."

[We were careful to avoid saying that notice to quit on account of game was never given; only that such notices are so rare that many who have lived all their lives in the country have never heard of such a case. Our correspondent may or may not be right in his facts; he makes a purely *ex parte* statement, which we have no means of checking, as the only name is his own, and it is quite possible that the Duke might have a different version to offer.—Ed.]

SQUIRRELS AND BIRDS' EGGS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—In a letter in last week's COUNTRY LIFE, in reference to squirrels eating birds' eggs, a correspondent, "J. R. H.," says he has never caught a squirrel red-handed. I have actually stood and watched a squirrel take a whole nest of blackbirds' eggs in our garden in Cumberland; but I did not realise what the squirrel was doing until the mischief was done. The nest was in a small holly tree, and before the squirrel climbed up to the nest the hen blackbird was sitting on five eggs. The squirrel came down, and was not at all appalled by my presence, and when I went to examine the nest it was filled with the broken shells. All the eggs had been sucked.—R. M. R.

THE DEATH'S HEAD MOTH.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I was interested in reading your comment on the letter of "P. F." about the "Death's Head Moth," in your issue of October 4th, which I only saw yesterday, or would have written before, as I think the following information may be of interest: A personal friend of mine in this town, in September, 1912, had a pupa of atropis sent him which had been dug up about ten miles from Woodbridge, in a potato patch. The pupa was placed in a small tin box containing light sandy soil, and the box was kept in a cupboard throughout the winter. In May the pupa was found to be alive, was carefully removed from the box, and placed on the top of a sprinkling of silver sand in another box which was kept in a cupboard adjoining a fireplace. The result was that in the early part of July my friend obtained a perfect specimen of this most interesting moth. It emerged from the pupa case on a Sunday morning; I believe it was on July 6th. I am writing this not to contradict your comment that "in no case will the larva or the pupa live through the winter," but in order, possibly, to help your correspondent. The above may be an unusual case, but I felt that the fact of my friend obtaining a fine specimen through his treatment of the pupa might give a suggestion which "P. F." could adopt with, I hope, equal success.—ERNEST BILNEY, Woodbridge.

P.S.—It is hardly necessary to add that the pupa should be handled as little as possible.—E. P.

SISKIN KILLED BY BEE.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—It is not often that one has the opportunity of noticing the effect on small birds and animals of a wound from a bee's sting, hence the following may be of interest. A friend of mine who keeps an outdoor aviary in his garden was inspecting his pets one day in company with some friends. A hive bee of the

somewhat fierce half-bred Ligurian variety had just made its way through the wire netting when it was espied and chased by a siskin. At first the bee tried to escape, but it very soon rounded on its assailant so savagely that the bird fled and the bee in his turn became the pursuer. The siskin dodged his puny antagonist with success at first, but finally the bee got home with his sting on the bird's head. The latter fluttered off to a perch in evident distress. Here it remained, moving its head from side to side in a dazed fashion. In this pose it lingered for some time, and allowed my friend to approach his face within a few inches of it. He then noticed a small swelling on the front of the head near one of its eyes. The swelling gradually increased to a large size, the bird meanwhile became weaker and its hold on the perch relaxed, at last it fluttered feebly to the ground. Within about half an hour its struggles had ceased, and it was picked up quite dead.—B. B.

FOXES IN CAPTIVITY.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—If your correspondent Mr. Lionel Edwards will try the plan of putting a wooden block at each end of his wire far enough from the tree to prevent his fox from running round it and getting "wound up," he will find this solves the difficulty. I frequently use this form of exercise for my bulldogs in the summer and am enabled by the "block system" to give them a sufficiently long chain to avoid the "hanging" position. The small hole bored in the block is checked on each side by a large knot in the wire, or the wire may be passed round the block.—M. HEINEMANN.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—If Mr. Lionel Edwards adopts the plan of putting a taut wire about three inches from the ground, fastened at each end to an iron-hooped stake,



EXERCISE WITH SAFETY.

he will find he can safely give his fox all the exercise he requires. The iron hoops will not cause the chain to get caught, however often the animal runs round at the end of his beat, and it is, of course, easily moved to a fresh pitch. After encountering all the difficulties mentioned in Mr. Edwards' letter, I adopted the plan I suggest for a spaniel of mine, and it has proved a complete success. An ordinary wooden peg at each end is apt to catch the chain, but on the rounded iron it glides off.—McHUGH.

FLIES ON IVY.

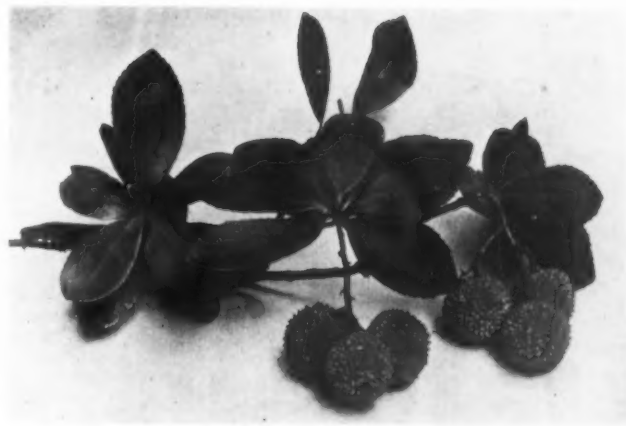
[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I may say, in reply to your correspondent's letter, that the flowers of the ivy, which provide an enormous quantity of nectar at a time of year when nectar is scarce, are always a great attraction to numerous species of flies, as well as late bees and wasps. Bluebottles especially visit the ivy flowers until quite late in the autumn, and another greyer fly, not unlike a bluebottle (with the scientific name of which I am unacquainted), is very much in evidence. Drone-flies and wasp-flies—harmless insects which imitate the colours of bees and wasps for protective purposes—are also frequently to be observed as partakers in the October and November feast.—K. MAITLAND.

THE FRUITS OF THE STRAWBERRY TREE

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—Referring to your interesting note in last week's issue, I have in my garden two large strawberry trees (*Arbutus Unedo*), each one bearing at the present time a fair sprinkling of the strawberry-like fruits. Although bright in colour, the fruits are very poor in flavour. Even birds—which are capable judges of flavour in soft fruits—seem to carefully avoid the arbutus berries unless very short of food in hard winters. It is no unusual thing for the berries to ripen and fall to the ground untouched by birds. Although very



LEAVES AND FRUIT OF THE ARBUTUS.

little can be said in favour of the edible qualities of the fruit, yet this arbutus should be even more extensively grown than it is, by virtue of the fact that it is one of the most beautiful of evergreen trees. The naturally peeled boles of this tree in large specimens are very handsome, and are as much admired as the attractive flowers and fruits. I believe that in Northern gardens this tree is sometimes injured by severe frosts, but here, in the South, the trees are seldom, if ever, touched by the frost. As a specimen tree for a lawn, *Arbutus Unedo* is much to be commended.—C. Q., Surrey.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—With reference to a recent letter requesting information about the fruit of the arbutus or "strawberry" tree, and your reply, it may interest your correspondent to know that in North Formosa—an island off the Coast of China—the arbutus fruit is larger than in this country, juicy, and of an excellent flavour, and when made into tarts rivals cherries. I know of no other part of the world where the fruit of the arbutus is worth eating.—HENRY N. SHORE.

HOW TO GET RID OF MICE WITHOUT A CAT.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—We have a pest of mice in the house, principally in the kitchen. They will not go into the traps, and I do not like a cat. Can you advise me what to do?—N. L. SCHEU.

[Place slag wool in their holes and runs. You can obtain it at any engineers' merchant's shop. The little prickles and barbs in the slag wool are fatal and terrifying to the mice.—ED.]

THE SHOW POINTS FOR POTATOES.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—Will you please let me know if there are any "show points" for potatoes, both for table use and for seed? Our judges at agricultural shows in this country generally give first prize to the largest potatoes, which, to my mind, is wrong.—CHARLES E. LONG, Holmdene, Transvaal, South Africa.

[For table use in this country potatoes of medium size are always preferred to extra large ones. In addition they ought to be quite free of disease, have few eyes and these very shallow, clear skins, and be shown in a clean and fresh condition. Seed potatoes are not usually exhibited. Most growers prefer those about as large as hens' eggs, and these, of course, must be free of disease. They must also be true to type. Thus, if the variety is a white kidney potato, all the seed tubers should be long and white. On the other hand, if it is a round or pebble-shaped variety, the seed tubers should conform to that shape. Unlike table potatoes, tubers intended for seed are better with well-pronounced though not deep eyes.—ED.]

"WHAT'S BRED IN THE BONE."

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—I send you a photograph of my daughter showing the Barlow Hounds to a friend.—MARJORIE E. M. WILSON.

THE CAPACITY OF RATS FOR SURMOUNTING OBSTACLES.

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—The capacity shown by rats for gnawing their way through obstacles of all kinds is well known, and it may interest your readers to hear of a striking example of it. In the course of repairs in this house, the frame of a window in the pantry was dismantled, and the upper part of the space in which one

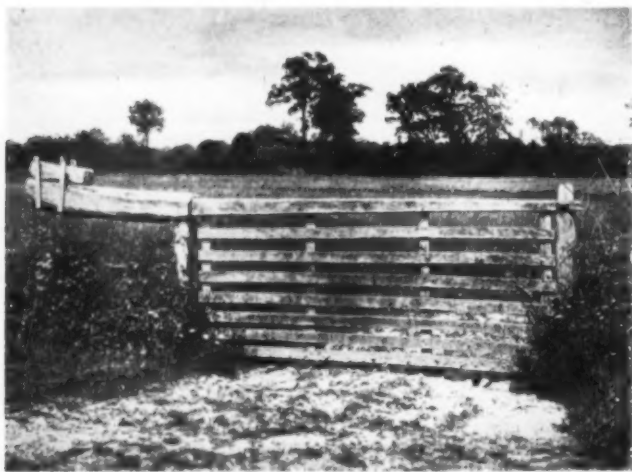


YOUNG ENTHUSIAST AND HER FRIEND.



**LEAD GNAWED BY RATS:
THE TEETH MARKS.**

Brittany. You will notice that the gate is entirely without hinges, being arranged to work on a pivot; the act of opening and shutting the gate



WORKING ON A PIVOT.

being made easy by means of the balancing stone held in the "cage" at the far end of the top cross-bar. I have never seen anything like it anywhere else and think that the view may be of considerable interest to your readers.—C. UCHTER KNOX.

**GOAT SUCKLING
LAMBS.**

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—The enclosed photograph was taken in this village a few weeks ago. Mr. H. J. Ford of Ablias Farm, Milton, had a ewe with two lambs, and the ewe died. He then put the lambs to a goat which he had, and the goat took to them and brought them both up, doing them exceedingly well, one weighing sixty pounds when it was killed at thirteen weeks old, the other fifty-five pounds. Since this Mr. Ford has put another lamb to the goat, but the lamb will not suck. I thought the incident may be sufficiently uncommon for you to



THE LAMBS AND THEIR FOSTER MOTHER.

of the sash weights runs was found to contain the debris left by rats. In the space below the weights was the skeleton of a rat. But the leaden weight itself had suffered in a remarkable way from the enterprise of the rats. They had gnawed a gangway diagonally down it, removing sufficient of the metal to afford a passage. The weight was a 7lb. weight—by calculation it would appear to have weighed originally 20z. or 30z. over 7lb. Its weight now is 6lb. 1½oz. It appears, therefore, that the rats, by persevering tooth-work, removed 1lb. of solid lead. I enclose a photograph of the weight, in which the chisel-like tooth marks can be well seen. I do not know what the rats did with the chips, but I imagine them to have been carefully removed. The question arises whether rats are susceptible to lead poisoning.—T. F. FREMANTLE, Wistow, Leicester.

BRITTANY GATES.

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—The enclosed photograph represents a field gate and is typical of those in use throughout

insert the photograph in your periodical.—PERCIVAL M. PUCKRIDGE, Milton Lilbourne, Pewsey, Wilts.

CLINGING POWER OF THE SWIFT.
[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I am enclosing you a photograph of a swift which I think may interest some of your readers, as so few will have had such a close view of one. I found the bird on the ground, it having struck some telegraph wires. It is seen here clinging, absolutely unaided, to a perpendicular wall. These birds have not the faculty of rising from the ground, so I took this bird to a second storey window, where, after one or two unsuccessful attempts, it eventually made its escape. From tip to tip of outstretched wings it measured eighteen inches—A. E. EBERLIN.



ON A PERPENDICULAR WALL.

**A VETERAN
AMONG
PIGEONS.**

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—In response to your correspondent's wish to hear of a domestic pigeon older than his own, I have pleasure in letting him know that I have had a ringed dove for over twenty-five years, having bought him—at I know not what age—in July, 1888. He has had an uneventful life and uniform good health, and only at moulting times has his appearance been a sorry one and his cheerfulness diminished. Every day, save in bitter weather, has he swung in his large wicker cage under a south-west verandah in Somersetshire, and at night he has invariably been brought into the house. Always he seems content and happy—he may continue so, for, though he is not a very interesting pet, he has become a member of the family.—NELLY WILKINSON.

HABITS OF BATS.

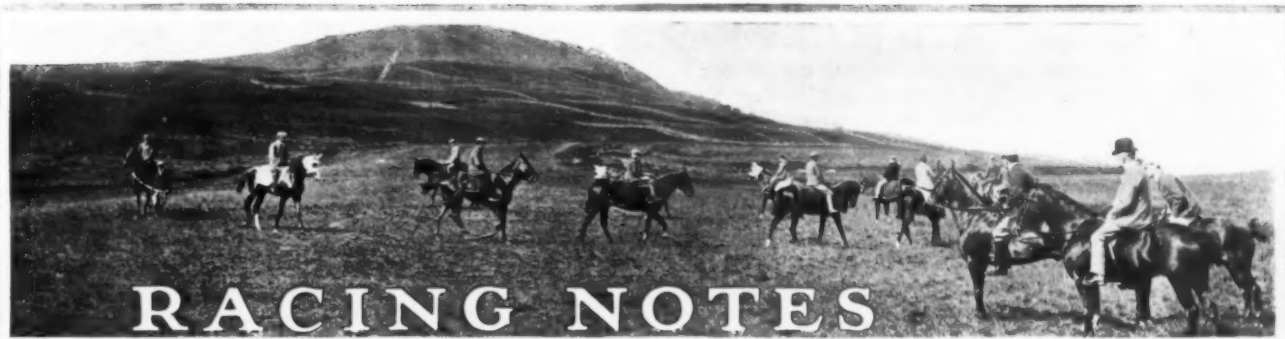
[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I was walking the other evening in Surrey with two old-fashioned hedgerow naturalists. A bat (*Vesperugo pipistrellus*) was flitting round our heads, then one of my companions recited these lines:

Bat, bat come under
my hat,
And I'll give you a
slice of bacon,
When next I bake
I'll give you a cake,
Unless I am much
mistaken.

Have you ever heard them before? What do they mean? Do bats eat bacon?—ELIZABETH RUSSELL.

[We have never heard of bats indulging in a diet of bacon, possibly because they seldom have a chance of so doing. Either our correspondent or the "old-fashioned hedgerow naturalist" has misquoted the lines, which are not quite as we remember to have heard them from a native of Suffolk. Perhaps some of our readers may be able to throw light on the origin of the rhyme?—Ed.]



RACING NOTES

LOOKING back—as we shall do—at the racing of the season now drawing to a close, it seems evident that a great many races have been won and lost at the wrong end of the race—that is to say, at the start instead of at the finish—a state of affairs for which, in the opinion of many racing people of the older school, the starting gate is entirely responsible. Some of them, indeed, make no secret of their belief that racing from the “gate” is not racing at all. There may be a good deal in what they say, from their point of view, for although under the man and the flag system of starting it did sometimes happen, it was not often that a heavily backed horse ridden by a good jockey was “left.” Far from it, for it was more likely than not that the well backed animal would get away with a length or two, sometimes more, to the good, whereas nowadays it must be admitted that it is impossible to guarantee that any particular horse will get well away, or, indeed, get away at all. But is the gate itself to blame? I think not. Theoretically, the gate is the best means yet devised for ensuring that each and all of the runners in a race shall start on level terms, nor does there appear to be any reason why, if properly used, it should not effect the purpose for which it is intended. But in order that the gate may be properly used several things are necessary, and the difficulty, to my mind, is that all these things need to be operating simultaneously. The starter needs to have the jockeys under complete control; he has ample powers for enforcing discipline, and it is up to him to use them with effect. Then the jockeys themselves should be—there is no reason why they should not be—masters of their horses; and, lastly, the starter himself needs to be possessed of due co-ordination of eye, brain and hand in order that at the very fraction of time that the horses are fairly in line the barrier may be released. One more factor—an important one—has to be considered, the horses themselves. Now, some horses there are—not very many, perhaps—who know the game and like it. These will stand almost motionless, ears pricked, eyes on the tapes and with every nerve and muscle ready for instant action; with them eye, brain and muscles act instantaneously and together; the tapes go up, and almost as they rise, away goes the sort of horse I am speaking about. Were all horses like these, the starter's job would be a simple one; but he has—so for the matter of that have the jockeys—to deal with animals of a very different disposition. There is the wilful shirker; he knows perfectly well what the tapes mean, but he does not want to race, not if he can help it. He is, perhaps, standing in line and well placed, up go the tapes, round he goes; he means to go round, and although his jockey may be able to straighten him up with very brief delay—delay there has been and he gets badly away

—neither the starter nor the jockey is to blame. I may add that I have repeatedly seen horses of this sort whip round when they were being started in a single exercise gallop, simply because they wanted to shirk their work if possible, not because of anything connected with tapes or starting gate. Then there is another kind of horse—he has no particular objection to starting, or to racing when once set going, but he does not act on the impulse of the moment, he requires time—a brief space of time—but still time to think before his brain transmits to his muscles the order to move. When the tapes go up, this sort of horse “dwells” and loses ground, but again the starter is free from blame, and the jockey may be. I say “may” because it is a very simple matter to make a horse “dwell” or seem to “dwell.” Yet another kind of horse comes under the starter's orders, the hot-headed, rampageous devil who not only dislikes the gate and everything connected with it, but intends to let everybody know that he does dislike it. An animal of this kind is capable of doing any amount of mischief, and to such as these our starters show, to my way of thinking, far too much leniency. Yet another idiosyncrasy on the part of horses is apt to get the starter badly spoken of—it is this: many horses jump off sideways—that is to say, their first stroke of the hind legs is not given truly; in other words, the horse is not truly balanced when he strikes off. Now, a horse jumping off sideways may—often does—barge into his nearest neighbour, who *malgré lui* passes the “bump” on, until the original offender has, as it is sometimes graphically described, “skittled the lot.” There is another form of bad start for which the starter cannot be fairly held responsible. The bad starts—there are far too many of them—for which, to my way of thinking, the starter is responsible are those in which, at the moment when he releases the barrier, one or more of the horses are standing broadside on to the tapes, or, it may be, looking the other way; or when one or more of the runners are some distance behind the others; or when one or more of the horses have, so to speak, trotted or cantered up to where the others are standing still. Bad starts for which I think the starter is

indirectly responsible—but responsible—are those which are bad owing to the disobedience or wilful incapacity of the jockeys. To my way of looking at it, if the jockeys are disobedient, or seemingly incapable of controlling their horses, the starter can shirk responsibility. He has disciplinary powers—I should like to see them more plenary—still, powers he has. He can inflict a fine up to ten sovereigns, the fine to be followed by a report to the Stewards. He not only can, but he must report to the Stewards any jockey who refuses to obey his commands in any respect whatever, and he can, at his own discretion, order any



W. A. Rouch.

MR. FRANK BIBBY'S THE BABE.

Copyright.

Winner of the Valentine Steeplechase at Liverpool.

unruly horse to take up any position he may please to direct. In Australia the starter can, I am informed, put a jockey on foot then and there. There is another thing which the starter can do: he can start the horses from a reasonable distance behind the starting post. Now, I may be wrong, and the suggestion is open to correction, but I believe that if more use were made of their discretionary power, better starts would result. I have, indeed, often thought that a broad white line some yards behind the gate would be of some assistance to the starter, for this reason: that very frequently horses otherwise well behaved instinctively swerve away from the flick of the tapes rising up almost, if not quite, in contact with them. This much I can say, that a few weeks since I was watching a batch—there were several batches—of horses practising at the gate. Time after time two or three of them swerved badly as the tapes went up—they were lined up, almost touching the barrier. Then I suggested that it might be interesting to see what they would do if they

were lined up a few yards back from the tapes; they were put back some ten or twelve yards, the barrier was released, and away they went, without trouble of any sort. Be that as it may—it is merely a suggestion—the fact remains, I think, that many horses are either improperly or not sufficiently schooled at the gate. An Australian trainer told me the other day, by the way, that our horses are not lined up sufficiently close together. "Pack them close up, as cavalry horses are," he said; "they won't kick each other—at all events, our horses don't—and you can get them in a perfect line without any bother." To get back to the question of schooling at the gate. It so happened that in the spring of this year I stood for a long time watching a lot—some thirty of them—of two year olds being schooled at the gate. Anything more complete or better devised than the means employed I never saw. I may here say that very rarely indeed is it that any horse trained in this particular stable gives trouble at the gate or fails to get well away. This is how they were schooled. They were lined up as close together as possible, the lads pretty nearly knee to knee. Now and then one of them would "back" a little, but he was soon in his place again, and there they stood while the trainer walked down the front of the rank, talking to them, patting them, and now and again finding a few pieces of carrot for some extra nervous pupil. "Now, boys! I'm going to let you go. Don't pull their mouths about, just give them a little squeeze with your knees, sit still, and let them rip for about a furlong." With this warning, up went the tapes and away went the two year olds, just like a lot of children let loose from school. Then they would be pulled up, trotted and walked about in the big paddock, and finally lined up again for another lesson. Nor was that all, for a more advanced class (also two year olds) having been lined up, the trainer "numbered them off." "Now," he said, "when the tapes go up, even numbers stand still, odd numbers jump off." This I thought was trying them pretty high, but it was done without a hitch, and then the "even numbers" having been brought back and into line, the odd numbers jumped off in their turn. "Do you have much trouble with them?" I asked. "Nothing to speak of," said the trainer. "Some of them are a little nervous and shy at first, but they soon get to know what you want them to do, and then they think it good fun. You just want to be patient with them, talk to them and make a little fuss of them. They are just like a lot of kids." Well, there it is. Properly used, I firmly believe that the starting gate, or something very like it, is the best method which can be devised for effecting a start. I think, too, that there would be fewer bad starts were the starter to deal more sternly and promptly with offending jockeys, and also that if trainers realised more fully the advantage there is in favour of horses thoroughly schooled at the gate, there would not be so many unruly animals for the starter

to deal with. It does, however, seem possible that some good might be done by insisting upon it that the horses should line up much closer together than they usually do, and that perhaps there would be less trouble at times were the starter to avail himself of his power to order the start to take place "a reasonable distance behind the gate."

One or two important handicaps remain to be decided before the present season comes to its close on the Saturday of the

Manchester November Meeting; but the result of those already relegated to the records of races past offers little encouragement to backers, for nearly all the important races of the season have been won by complete outsiders—Fiz Yama (50 to 1) won the Cesarewitch, Cantilever (33 to 1) the Cambridge-shire, and last week the price returned against China Cock, winner of the Liverpool Autumn Cup, was 20 to 1.

A noticeable feature of the lengthy catalogue for the December Sales is the inclusion of several French-bred brood

mares in foal to horses of good repute. These mares are all, I believe, clean-bred through both sire and dam, and should be worth the attention of English breeders.

TRENTON.



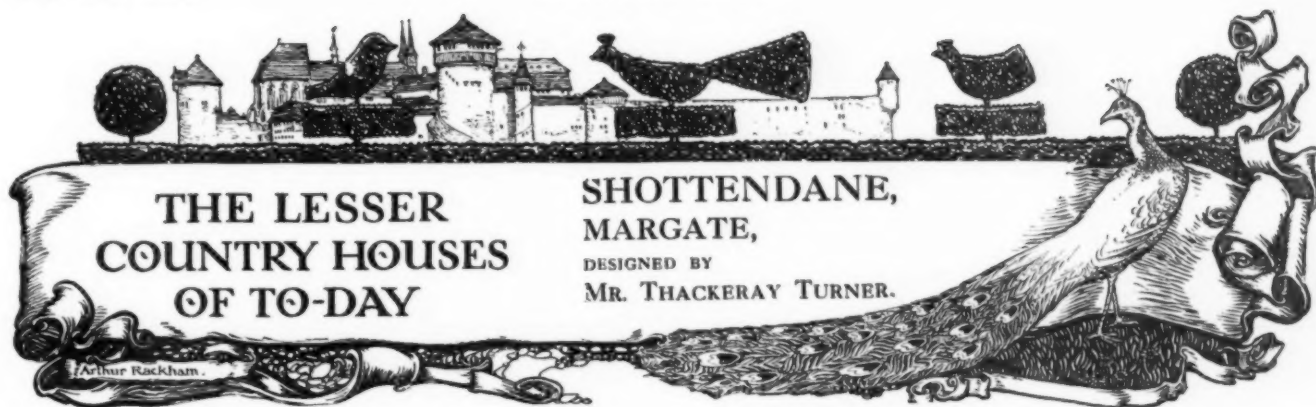
W. A. Roush.

SIR CHARLES ASSHETON-SMITH'S BERNSTEIN.
Winner of the November Hurdle Handicap at Liverpool.

Copyright.

THE HABITS OF TURTLE DOVES

I HAVE read with much pleasure the article about turtle-doves in your last issue. It is charmingly illustrated by photographs of these beautiful and interesting migratory birds in their natural nesting surroundings. My only complaint is that the writer does not give us, from the results of his close watching, more details, such as the average date of their yearly arrival in the locality where he resides, an approximate date of the departure of both adult and young birds, and some idea of the number which assemble at the same spot. Our experience of these birds as annual visitors in large numbers to the garden at Hedsor Wharf has given us so much pleasure that I venture to write and ask whether any of your other readers have had similar opportunities of studying what the writer of the article in question justly calls "their strong homing instincts." About ten years ago—I regret I cannot give the exact date, but I err, if anything, on the cautious side in regard to length of time—a single pair of wild turtle doves fed every day on the lawn at Hedsor Wharf in company with some tame fantail pigeons. These latter were, for various reasons, given away during the autumn months of the same year, and we never anticipated seeing their wild companions again. In the following early May, however, they reappeared, and, after alighting on the lawn, walked straight to the spot where they had been fed the previous year. Indian corn was promptly procured, and throughout the summer season they continued to feed several times each day. Since then the same lawn has been visited every year by an increasing number of these birds, until, in 1912, forty-five, and in the current year, fifty, were counted feeding at the same time. I need hardly say that we are on the look-out each spring for our charming visitors, and that corn is spread on the lawn so that the first to arrive shall not be disappointed of her hope after the long and arduous journey. The earliest arrival is almost invariably during the first week in May, and from that time the numbers gradually increase until the end of the month, when, I presume, the migration is over. During June and the early part of July the small lawn at feeding-time seems literally alive with these birds, and the air from dawn to dusk vibrates with the sound of their "roaring"—"coo-ing" it cannot be called! The nesting sites are in the old willows bordering the banks of the Thames, which here flows past the lawn, and the nests, eggs and young can be observed with ease. It is a curious fact that the fully fledged young do not accompany their parents at feeding-times, and we have never seen a bird of immature plumage on the lawn. The writer of the article in last week's COUNTRY LIFE speaks of the young birds as finally leaving the nesting site on August 24th, but he does not mention whether the adult birds had disappeared from the locality by this date. A few stragglers—obviously adults—continue to feed intermittently at the Wharf during August, but by the end of the month all have gone. The turtle dove is by nature a very shy bird, but the yearly return to the same surroundings and easy access to food have made a considerable change in this respect in the doves which frequent Hedsor Wharf; they are still shy of anyone walking near their feeding place, but it is quite close to the house, and they do not hesitate to approach if the human beings remain quietly seated in fairly close proximity. The beautiful colouring of the birds can then be seen to advantage. I regret to say that up to the present no photograph of them has been secured; as they are on the ground and it is difficult to get a suitable point of view. CECILIA BOSTON.



THE LESSER COUNTRY HOUSES OF TO-DAY

SHOTTENDANE,
MARGATE,
DESIGNED BY
MR. THACKERAY TURNER.

SHOTTENDANE is a family house of ample proportions and simple design standing on a sloping site which gave pleasant opportunities for garden treatment. The carriage approach leads to a projecting porch on the east side, from which we have access to a large hall. The handling of the interiors is on traditional lines with a personal and modern touch, of which more must be said later. The outside walls are mainly of rough-cast brick, with a few touches of colour given by quoins built of red tiles and with variety of texture yielded by stone porch and window dressings. An interesting detail is the use of tile corbels under the eaves. On the west side is a broad terrace protected by a balustrade of open brickwork, and beneath it Dr. Rowe has made the rock garden, which appears in our second picture.

It is always easier to appreciate the work of an architect at its right value if we have some notion of his attitude towards the whole question of design. Mr. Thackeray Turner for a quarter of a century gave up his whole leisure to the secretaryship of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. It might hastily be supposed from this that his devotion to old work would have led him to attempt its exact imitation in his own design, but the exact opposite is the truth. In a lecture which he gave to the students of the Carpenters' Company two years ago, he set out his point of view very clearly, and we cannot do better than use some of his own words: "The Architect's duty is first to plan his building so as to be really well suited to its

purpose. Secondly, he must study the construction carefully and see that his building will be such as will last. And this



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ENTRANCE FRONT FROM THE SOUTH. "COUNTRY LIFE."

means not merely that it will stand up, but that it has its weights properly distributed for its foundations, and that it will



Copyright.

GARDEN FRONT FROM THE WEST.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



PLANS OF SHOTTENDANE.



Copyright.

THE PORCH.

"C.L."

not be harmed by the weather owing to the roofs being of faulty construction and the walls not properly protected from wet. While he is paying attention to these two important points, he must at the same time bear in mind that the building must make a pleasing block. If he does this successfully and uses suitable materials, the result will be fine architecture, although there may not be a single ornamental feature on the building. He may be influenced, by the spirit of Classic Architecture in which case he will aim at symmetry, or he may be influenced by Gothic Architecture, in which case he will avoid symmetry, but no one would accuse him of copying either style whichever way he went. It is only when the decorative features of buildings are copied that the question of style comes in, and if an architect is worth his salt, he will be able to design without copying any little ornament of which he feels his building has a crying need.

It is often said that you cannot invent a new style of architecture, and this is quite true. Few things are more offensive than striving after novelty; but, on the other hand, no revival has ever come to anything, and you will not get a



Copyright.

A GARDEN STAIR.

"C.L."

new style by copying." This is all admirable good sense, and coming as it does from a man whose practical devotion to the care of ancient buildings has been no less than a national service, it demands especial attention. We find this devout antiquary abhorring reproductions of the old and asking architects to think for themselves. New needs call for new design, based, it is true, on the traditional work of the past, but used as an inspiration rather than as an exact model. Architects who desire to do honest work often express their indebtedness to COUNTRY LIFE for its work in widening public appreciation of the qualities of our domestic architecture. Their gratitude, however, is lessened when a client turns over the leaves of a bound volume and says, "I want *that* porch and *that* bay window and *that* chimney reproduced in my house." Often enough these



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FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.

"C.L."



Copyright. DRAWING-ROOM FIREPLACE.



SHOTTENDANE: THE HALL.

"G.L."

elements, all beautiful in themselves, would make a jarring medley if assembled in one building, but even if not, their exact reproduction would be a spiritless business, and enough to destroy the architect's interest in his work. That is not the way to get a building which will be a work of art in its own right, for art implies creation and not copyism. It is the letter of the old work which kills, but its spirit gives life.

L. W.

OUR DISTANT EMPIRE. TASMANIA.

TASMANIA is vaguely associated in most people's minds with fruit, convicts and devils. The fruit is there, the convicts are a thing of the past, while the "devils" (*Dasyurus ursinus*), which formerly wrought havoc among the poultry, and even sheep of the early settlers, are being driven further and further away from the townships and farms which overspread the island. Discovered in 1642 by Abel Jans Tasman, at the instigation of Antony van Diemen, Governor-General of the Dutch settlement in Batavia, the land first named in his honour was, until 1798, regarded as a portion of Australia. In that year Lieutenant Flinders and Dr. Bass explored the dividing strait which was called after the adventurous surgeon. French explorers visited the island between these dates, and in 1777 Captain Cook landed for a few days. On September 12th, 1803, Lieutenant Bowen disembarked about four miles above the present position of Hobart, on the River Derwent. He was the first British Governor.

For many years sheep-farming was the principal industry of the colony, and its merino stud sheep were famous. The astounding price of 1,125 guineas was paid for one ram. Whaling also gave employment to many, but of late years has dwindled to nothing. Hobart, the capital, is prettily situated beneath the shadow of Mount Wellington, and has a population, with suburbs, of about 39,000. Large ocean-going steamers can moor at the wharves, while in February, March and April the calling of fruit steamers has become a feature of the port. Apples are the chief fruit export. In 1911 considerably over 1,500,000 cases of fruit were shipped.

There are many beautiful drives round Hobart. The Queen's Domain, a public reserve of 500 acres, commands fine views of the town, while Fern Tree Bower, Silver Falls, Brown's River Beach (with its "Old Curiosity Shop" of quaint relics of Van Diemen's Land) and the Botanical Gardens recall pleasant memories to all who have visited the sunny little place.

Launceston, the chief port in the north, lies 133 miles from Hobart, and is connected with it by the main line which runs through the centre of the island. Branch lines connect the chief fruit-growing and agricultural centres. The Derwent Valley Line, the show line of the South, follows the banks of the Derwent for nearly fifty miles, passing the Russell Falls, about five miles from the terminus. The orchards and hop-growing country through which the line passes are extremely beautiful.

Apsley, which gives its name to another branch line, is the centre of some of the best orchard country in the island. Between Burnie, on the North-west Coast, and Launceston (112 miles) lies splendid agricultural land; while in the opposite direction Branhholm is the leading town of an important mining district. To the west again, Zeehan is a thriving mining town. Other important fruit-growing and timber-producing districts are situated on the Huon River and d'Entrecasteaux Channel. Huonville itself is twenty-three miles from Hobart, and Franklin, embedded in orchards, lies five miles beyond.

Geeveston, thirty-eight miles from Hobart, is the centre of the timber industry, and at Port Cygnet, situated in an extensive fruit-growing area, there are important fruit-drying and fruit-pulping works. Richmond, not so well known as it deserves to be, is surrounded by splendid pastoral and agricultural properties. Glenusk and Bismarck are given up to fruit culture. The Lakes District is situated on an elevated plateau between 2,000ft. and 3,000ft. above sea-level, rising abruptly on its northern and eastern boundary, and ascended by a long slope on the south. Westward it extends nearly to the West Coast mining fields, and contains some splendid grazing land. The fishing is good, and in the Great Lake brown trout up to 15lb. and 20lb. are caught. All information with regard to fishing and licences can be obtained on application to the secretary of the Tourist Association.

The beautiful beech trees, misnamed "myrtle," are a feature of the scenery round Lake St. Clair. The most remarkable trees one sees in Tasmania are the eucalypts, some of which touch 300ft. in height. Lady Franklin's tree, near Hobart, has a circumference of 107ft. at 4ft. from the ground. These trees have a substantial value as timber, but the most valuable are the blackwood, Huon pine, King William pine and musk, all of which furnish highly ornamental wood. All Tasmanian trees and shrubs are evergreens; none excel the beautiful tree-ferns in picturesque loveliness.

This is not the place to dwell on the early history of Tasmania, yet the locality of Port Arthur still retains a melancholy interest. To Mount Rumney, when a convict escaped, signals were flashed *via* Eaglehawk Neck, with its terrible guardians, bloodhounds on land and sharks in the water. Thence the message was transmitted by means of signal fires to Mount Nelson, Hobart, in a few minutes. In the keeping of the Island of the Dead lie the remains of Denis Collins, almost the first occupant. He was a sailor, and threw a stone at King William IV. Here, too, Savary, the dashing Bristol sugar merchant and twice convicted forger, lies. Who ever reads "Quintus Servington" now?

The fauna, like the flora, of Tasmania is almost identical with that of Australia. It includes, in addition to the dasyure, the duck-billed platypus or ornithorhynchus, and the hyena-like native tiger (*Thylacinus cynocephalus*). Comparatively few birds are peculiar to the colony, though there are, in all, 187 indigenous species.

Of the original inhabitants of Tasmania, the last male died in 1869, the last female in 1876. Inferior even to the "gins" of Australia, their disappearance was inevitable. It is probable that their numbers never exceeded 5,000.

F. W.



BULLDOG GOSSIP.

THERE is nothing like a specialist show if one wishes to study carefully the progress being made by any particular breed. The many distractions of a general fixture prevent one



CHAMPION BAPTON NORMAN.

seeing the wood for the trees, the endeavour to take in too much at once ending in nothing being done thoroughly. When I say "thoroughly," I do not mean running a casual eye down the benches, but sitting by the ringside and following the process of judging as carefully as if one were handing out the awards himself. Last week the London Bulldog Society lured me to the Royal Horticultural Hall, where I was enabled to have a good look at my old favourites. Although nearly a dozen years must have passed since I bred my last litter of bulldogs, I have never ceased to follow the fortunes of my former friends. My earliest recollections are of the late Mr. Edgar Farman's Ruling Passion and Cigarette; Mr. J. W. Ross' Blackwall Beauty, sired by Aston Lion, who was full of the good old Birmingham blood; Mr. J. S. Pybus Sellon's Dockleaf, Dandelion and Dimboola; Mr. Sam Woodiwiss' Blackberry and Baron Sedgemere; Mr. R. D. Thomas' Bicester Beauty; Mr. A. J. Sewell's Queer Street; and later, King Orry, Boomerang, Kater-



CHAMPION SIR ROGER.

felto, and that grand-bodied little dog, Bromley Crib. This was before Mr. Walter Jefferies' immortal Rodney Stone had set the fashion for high prices. When the late Mr. Pybus Sellon sold Champion Dimboola to Mr. Charles Meyrick in 1896 for £275 he was believed to have established a record. Another notable transaction took place at the Bulldog Club Show of the same year, Mr. Sewell then purchasing the good fawn, Queer Street, for £120 from Mr. Lacey, who had bought the dog from his breeder, Mr. J. Knight, for £2 or £3. This son of Sheffield Barry and Knight's Gipsy was a product of the East End, whence so many fine specimens have sprung. Shortly before this date Champion Facey Romford was sold by his breeder, Mr. D. Y. Cassels, to Colonel Hilton of New York for £160. The Lady de Clifford, who died in 1895, had proved her devotion to the national breed by claiming at her catalogue price of £150 the bitch Queen Rose at the club show of



BLUE FOX OF AMWELL.

1889. The sums which seem insignificant at the present day were then regarded as being something altogether noteworthy, but enormous advances have been made since that time in every department of the kennel world. Indeed, a man who had more or less buried himself for five years told me the other day how much he was impressed by the changes that had taken place even in that brief period.

BULLDOG CHARACTER.

Were any reader to ask me how the bulldogs of the moment compare with those I have mentioned, I should be rather put about to find a satisfactory answer, for it is so very difficult to carry images in one's mind over ten or fifteen years. My own impression is that there are now

more good bulldogs worthy of a position in the front rank, though we may have none quite equal to some of the best of those I remember. I am inclined to think that the gravest fault at present observable is in the shape of the back and



CHAMPION BAPTON BERYL.

hind-quarters generally. Not only is it a rare thing to see a roach back, but it is getting almost as rare to find a dog with the tapering hind-quarters which are so distinctive. Body properties seem to have been much neglected in favour of the head, although the preamble to the Bulldog Club standard warns us that no point should be so much in excess of the others as to destroy the general symmetry or make the dog appear deformed, or interfere with its powers of motion, etc. Of course, a conspicuously good head does not interfere with the action, but it is not the one and only feature of a bulldog to be selected for appreciation. No matter how superlatively good a dog may be in this respect, if he is as heavy behind as he is in front, and his hind legs are no higher than his front legs, he is an offence to me. We do not want one that has to be wheeled about in a bath chair. Nor are the common run of front legs to be exonerated from criticism, for many of them are as



CH. CHEWSTON WHISKEY BACH.

bad as they well could be. That these grave faults are not the outcome of the last year or two is apparent from a perusal of the report of the Bulldog Club for 1896. Here is a passage referring to the exhibits at the club's show: "The Committee would particularly direct the attention of breeders to this great defect (*i.e.*, deformed fore-legs), with a view to inducing them to stamp it out. Upon reference to the standard it will be seen that the fore-legs should be straight, not bandy or curved. The rather bowed outline of the fore-legs should be produced by the development of the calf, not by bent or deformed bone." Again, concerning the other point I have mentioned, we read: "Heavy or beefy hind quarters are being too frequently produced, and, with regret, it must be said that 'short strong backs, very broad at the shoulders and comparatively narrow at the loins,' are to be found in very few specimens. The Committee would impress upon breeders the absolute necessity of every endeavour being made that is possible to perpetuate that 'distinctive characteristic of the breed,' the roach or wheel back. This grand property is becoming more and more rare every year." I wonder what the gentlemen who framed these remarks would have to say if they sat in conclave upon the prize-winners of the present year. I much fear the unanimous verdict would be that we had gone from bad to worse. Of course, all are not open to this sweeping criticism. At the show the other day I could not help picking out for exemption that clinking little red bitch, Woodend Joan. Champion Oak Nana, too, is compact and shapely. The much-debated Kennel Club champion, Wasso Hermit, is put together as a bulldog should be, and, going over him point by point, after we have passed his small nostrils, it is hard to pull him to pieces. The worst we can say is that we should like a bit more of him. Mr. C. A. Fores' Letchford Mason looks a bulldog all over, and the activity, bone and condition of Dr. Beresford's Willonyx are particularly pleasing. Mrs. Edgar Waterlow's Champion Nuthurst Lad has always excited my admiration. I thought he would have taken the dog challenge certificate.

MRS. WATERLOW'S FRENCH BULLDOGS.

Mrs. Charles Waterlow has enjoyed the distinction of winning two years in succession at the Kennel Club Show both the dog and bitch challenge certificates with her French bulldogs, Champion Stanmore Footitt and Stanmore Dinette. As both were bred by their owner, the victories must be all the more gratifying.

A FINE BLUE CHOW.

Mrs. Lionel Fauldel-Phillips' fidelity to the blue Chow was amply rewarded when she bred Blue Fox of Amwell, for at the last Kennel Club Show honours fell thick and fast upon this son of Yulang of Amwell.



STANMORE DINETTE.

The specialist judge ranked him the next best to the sensational Prince's Double, and the all-round judges thought so well of him that they gave him the Shirley Memorial Cup for the best non-sporting dog belonging to a member of the Ladies' Branch of the Kennel Club. In conjunction with his fellow kennel inmates, Bluet and Blue Gown of Amwell, he was second in the non-sporting teams. For a beginning this cannot be considered bad, and there is no doubt he has a big future before him.

SCOTTISH TERRIERS.

One need not ask for two worthier examples of the Scottish terrier than the brace illustrated to-day, the property of Mr. J. Deane Willis of Bapton Manor,



STANMORE DINETTE'S HEAD.



BELLE, A MAREMMANO SHEEP DOG.

Wilts. The charming little bitch, Champion Bapton Beryl, has never met defeat since she was a year old. Two years in succession she has won the cup for the best Scottie at the Kennel Club Show, and last year she was also awarded the cup on the second day for the best bitch puppy of any breed. At the Scottish Terrier Club fixture in Regent's Park, once again she was put above the dogs as well as her own sex for the general cup. It is only proper that Champion Bapton Norman should find a place in these pages side by side with his illustrious daughter; for, apart from his grand type, he has the merit of ranking among the finest sires the breed has ever known, his stock including Champion Bapton Beryl, Champion Bapton Dahlia, Champion Ems Troubadour, Merlewood Laddie, champion at Edinburgh this year; Ruminately Rivet, winner of two challenge certificates; Bapton Blacksmith, winner of two championships before he was sold for a big price to Canada; and Clonmel Deuce, the challenge prize winner at Dublin.

TYPICAL SEALYHAMS.

One is almost afraid to speak of "typical Sealyhams" until judges and breeders have clearly made up their minds as to what they really want; but whatever the future may have in store, the dogs illustrated this week will be sure of an honourable place in the records of the variety. Mr. Fred W. Lewis of Haverfordwest, having been one of the first to push the claims of this smart little terrier, it is not surprising that he should have produced many good ones at Sealyham House. Sir Roger, who pleased the judge most among the dogs at the Kennel Club, accomplished the rare feat of becoming a full champion by the time he was seven months old, and he is now the holder of seven challenge certificates and upwards of twenty first prizes. Champion Chawston Whiskey Bach has won many prizes for Mr. W. Baker, and is familiar to all habitués of shows.

A LITTLE KNOWN DOG.

With the usual British insularity I have started to speak of the Maremmano sheepdog as being little known, but it would be more just to add "in this country." I daresay he is familiar enough in Italy, and two years ago at America's chief show in New York Mr. Payne Whitney had some on exhibition. Unfortunately, Mr. W. S. Landor, in sending the picture of his bitch Belle, omits to furnish us with any particulars beyond saying that she

is a typical Maremmano sheep bitch. The breed is to be found in the marshy district of Tuscany bearing the name Maremma. From its appearance we might well be led to think it has an affinity to the handsome Pyrenean mountain dogs, and it is like Ruffo and Beldia, two Italian mountain dogs who sixteen years ago had a home in Queen Victoria's kennels at Windsor.

A. CROXTON SMITH.

HUNTING NOTES

THE QUORN.

ALTHOUGH this pack have not yet formally opened their season, the sport has not waited for this, and they had two excellent days last week. I saw it stated somewhere the other day that the motor-car had altered the style of hunter used in the Midlands, and that a tall horse rather "on the leg" was superseding the more compact animal of bygone years, the reason suggested being that horses had not now to hack to the meets. This is, I think, not so. The type of Quorn hunter has not altered much. The men of the Shires always sought for the blood, racing type, and if we may judge by old pictures found there, the true Melton men never "hacked on." They went to the meet in drags, behind tandems and, above all, on galloping hacks, but never on their hunters. When hounds threw off, it was then, as now, a racing twenty or thirty minutes in the morning, "a Quorn burst," which men looked and hoped for. In a sense, men then, as now, hunted to ride; a majority of people will always do this. Some of the best men over a country I have known have cared chiefly for the riding; not everyone has time or inclination to study hounds and their work. But, on the other hand, how few men care for riding without hunting! The drag hunt and the steeplechase are no rivals to fox-hunting, even in the affections of those who scarcely know one hound from another. Polo only sometimes rivals hunting; nothing else does. But, at all events, the men who ride prefer blood horses and tall horses. The best horse I ever rode in the Quorn country was a tall, narrow, well-bred horse with a long, smooth stride, from whose back even big fences looked small. He had a way of transferring himself quietly from one side of the fence to the other with apparently the least possible exertion to himself or effort to his rider. But he was a delicate horse and a nervous one. A fast twenty minutes took a great deal out of him, and half a day once a week was his limit. He was a bad feeder, and was out of place in a small stud, so he went to a friend with a big stud. Yet I thoroughly understand why horses of this type are, and have been, popular, and why one sees them now by the covert-side, and why they cost a great deal of money. But I have got off the line, and must return to Barsby and the stick heap, where there was a bold fox. A halloo, a touch on the horn (how well this pack comes to Leaf!), a rippling chorus, and the field spreads out to ride, not with the full abandonment of later days. Fences are blind. A horse cannot always be persuaded that a ditch filled with solid-looking green growth will let a horse in, but the Leicestershire style of fencing is a cause of safety. A little more pace than elsewhere, a horse that stands back and takes off in good time and lands well into the next field is less likely to be entrapped than one that is less free, less bold. It is a pleasant line from Barsby to Ashby; below are the pastures, and men are prepared for a pause in that small but strong covert. Then it is seen that hounds are not going into the wood—Paget's Spinney—by the railroad; they thread and swing to the right over the rails towards Great Dalby. A railway line always steadies the followers;

but though there is a fairly large and keen field, hounds have plenty of room, and the country, too, holds them a little as the pack, still pushing on, sweeps, wavers, settles, and turns to the left towards Melton. Near Eye Kettleby they change, leaving the hunted fox behind after a pleasant forty minutes, and then go on with the fresh fox to spend half an hour deciphering the line among the impediments of the busy railway junction and the river at Melton. But there is time for the followers to extricate themselves, and hounds touch the grass again in Egerton Lodge Park. Then the pack turns away from the Asfordby district, and the fox works towards the Belvoir boundaries, running for a time parallel to the Nottingham Road, being stopped near Scafford, when Melton Spinney, a Belvoir covert the Master is unwilling to disturb, is the obvious point of fox and hounds. It was a good hunt, with plenty of variety—a pleasant ride at first, and then later some first-rate hunting. They had, too, a nice run on Friday from Schoby Scholes, covering for nearly an hour some of the best of the Quorn Monday country. It was a hunting run, and very good of its kind.

MR. FERNIE'S.

This is the Quorn country with a difference—the enclosures are rather larger, the fences somewhat bigger as a rule, and with the occasional disadvantage of being practicable only in one place. As the season goes on, these practicable places become very much easier, but at first there is no greater trial of nerve than having to take one's turn at an awkward place. If you can gallop up to a place, steady the horse and swing over, it is so much easier than to hold back a keen horse, to give the leader room to fall, and then to be taken with a rear, a plunge, a bound and a blunder, or worse, into the next field, with the possibility that the man or woman behind may not be able to hold his or her horse. Mr. Fernie's is a country which is suitable to the very young and the old—to the former, because pace, a bold horse and a good heart will carry one over many difficult obstacles; to the old, because with small coverts hounds are generally in the open and to be seen, and gates are frequent and well hung; and not all the fences are big here any more than anywhere else. This description applies well to Norton Gorse and the country round it. Although the opening day was fixed for the roth, yet by last Friday all the country was fairly free of wire, and some of the followers rode as if wire was unheard of. Norton Gorse lies rather low, a compact little wood of some three or four acres, so strong in its undergrowth that it takes a great deal of drawing. But its foxes are bold; some coverts seem always to hold better foxes than others. (Newman's Gorse, in the Belvoir, is another small covert which holds a bold sort of fox.) I have seen a fox hang obstinately in Norton Gorse and left there in triumph. But on this occasion it was not long before the field ranged along the hedgerow with the open gate in the corner, and saw the fox going away towards Houghton Spire. It was a charming ride round these grass slopes and back to Norton; not very far, and easy enough if you had the



THE EARL OF SCARBROUGH.

inside turn all the way. The hounds soon came away again on the other side, pointing now towards Galby, with the Coplow looming up on the left; but the fox kept inclining to the right, and led over that incomparable line from Ashlands to Rolleston. Up to this point the pace was fast. The speed would carry you over the flying fences of the Ashlands Vale, and there was the road by Mr. Falkner's house for the less ambitious. But people come to the Bellesdon country to ride, and a fair number were "competing," as the phrase goes. Over the big country from Rolleston to Skeffington hounds hunted more steadily, and then the undulations from Keythorpe to Vowes Gorse made a pleasant ending and a good point at Vowes Gorse for as fine a hunt over a first-rate country as anyone need wish to see.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE.

The Worcestershire, like several other packs in the neighbourhood, have lately found scent improve as the day went on. The rain has improved scent, no doubt, and the cooler air of the evening (the sun has often been quite hot in the morning) has favoured hounds. The Worcestershire pack are hard in condition and quite as keen after two o'clock as before. Hounds were fairly close to a good fox in Long Acre and pushed him hard for the first quarter of an hour. Running parallel to the road, hounds threw their tongues gaily. Perhaps the prettiest bit of hunting was when the fox took a sharp turn in Lord Dudley's wood of Ockeridge, and the pack, wheeling with the line, seemed like catching a more than half-beaten fox. Dodging and twisting, the fox, gallant to

consecutive hunting days Mr. Amory and his hounds killed a fox, and on each occasion after a long hunt. To kill a fox after an hour of hunting in a difficult country, closely fenced by high, strong banks, is one of the tests of scientific fox-hunting and of working hounds. Patience and perseverance and an insight into the ways of foxes are necessary.

HUNTING EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

At the opening meet of the Meynell Hunt, Mr. Gerald Hardy was presented with a life-size portrait of himself with three of his Peterborough winners, Waverley and Warner, and the bitch Heedless. These hounds were described and portrayed in *COUNTRY LIFE*, and they represent, perhaps, the high-water mark of the well known judgment of Mr. Hardy as a hound-breeder. He has been Master of two famous countries, and has left the packs—the Atherstone and the Meynell—better than he found them. Sport has risen to a high level of excellence in the Meynell during the last ten years. I also remember Mr. Hardy as the owner of some famous ponies—Orangeman, Gamecock and Elastic—and as a player in that famous team of Freebooters which defeated those fine players, the brothers Peat, in the Champion Cup at Hurlingham in 1894. The four players were Mr. Hardy, Lord Southampton, Captain Le Gallais and Captain Daly. Three of the team became Masters of Hounds, and Le Gallais' gallant life and death are still remembered and regretted by those who knew him. The presentation was made at Sudbury Hall, the traditional gathering-place of the Meynell at the beginning of the season.



IN THE FIRST FLIGHT WITH THE COTTESMORE NEAR HAMBLEDON.

the last, slipped away into the open. How often have I seen a falling fox save his life thus. Scent was fading and so was the daylight, and hounds, working hard, were defeated by the darkness. The next hunting day—Monday—saw hounds making a four-mile point at a pace which strung out the field. Hunters are not yet as fit as they will be, and we are, perhaps, in the first zest of November inclined to take liberties with them. Worcestershire is a difficult country to kill foxes in, though the chances of the pursuers have improved with the increased area under grass. Scent on the lighter soils often serves well in wet weather.

MR. IAN AMORY'S.

If Mr. Ian Amory has succeeded, as he hopes, in inventing a snare effectual in catching rabbits, but which spares the foxes, he will deserve the gratitude of all fox-hunters in the West. Rabbit-trapping in the open (and there is no pretence in many places of obeying the law against traps set in the open) must eventually be fatal to fox-hunting wherever it is carried on to any extent. This is a point on which there can be no doubt. Mr. Amory, who hunts a rough but very sporting West Country district, has had a successful cub-hunting season, and his hounds are improving. He is one of those men who succeed in whatever they undertake. He learned to kill the red deer, and now has found out how to kill the wild foxes of the Tiverton country. Much in that country depends on the huntsman, and even more on the way hounds work—they must hunt closely, yet chase hard when they get their chance and learn to depend on themselves. On two

They have had a fair cub-hunting season, but a good many bad scenting days; yet Mr. Milbank has shown himself able to kill twenty-five brace of foxes. Two other presentations there have been, one to Major and Mrs. Mayall of the Albrighton, from the farmers, of a silver cradle, and the other to Mr. Burke of the Tipperary, on his marriage. Mr. Burke is the Tipperary Hunt nowadays, and is probably one of the most popular Masters in Ireland. Other men have been Masters, but none is so dear to the hearts of Tipperary men, gentle or simple, as Mr. R. Burke. Tipperary is fine country, chiefly grass. There is often scent, but the Tipperary banks are a kind by themselves—high, often with strong growth at the top. Coolmore, which is near the Master's house at Fethard, was drawn on the opening day, and led hounds into a perfect country, all grass, the fields bounded by banks which are big, but firm and sound. A horse can jump on them, change his legs Irish fashion, and with a strong kick back land himself in the further field. Hounds went away well, and there was a bright half-hour, the point being about three miles, eight as hounds travelled, and the pace good all the way. Mr. Christy, the Master of the South Shropshire, has resigned. He has an excellent pack of hounds. South Shropshire is a notably good country to make a pack in, and he has been the means of moving the kennels into a central position in the country. Mr. Cardell of the Four Burrow East has, to the great satisfaction of the Cornish sportsmen and sportswomen, promised to hunt a further portion of the old Four Burrow country, which includes some of the best parts.

"BAILY'S HUNTING DIRECTORY."

I find it rather difficult to know what to say about "Baily's Hunting Directory" for 1913-14, except that I am quite sure no hunting man can do without it. I do not say that if one made a close search no mistakes could be found, but they are so few and the value of the directory is so great that such small blemishes would make no difference. I had thought that I had written and read everything that could be said as to the greatness of the sport, yet one can realise the number of interests included under the head of fox-hunting better by a study of "Baily's Directory" than in any other way. There are, for example, four hundred and ninety-one packs of hounds in the United Kingdom. There are the point-to-point meetings, themselves a branch of sport, and not the least suggestive is the return of the prices of first-class hunters sold at public auction, during the past season, and realising two

hundred guineas or over. Then there are the records of famous huntsmen, by no means the least valuable and interesting section of the work.

Might I suggest to those huntsmen who wish to be included in future histories of fox-hunting that they will very much increase their prospects by sending their record to "Baily's Directory." "Baily's Directory" is not only full of the promise of future sport, but is material for the history of the past, and the seventeen scarlet-clad volumes are there on a favourite shelf ready to recall to us the bright side of life for seventeen seasons. Hunting has this charm—that it brings with it no regrets, except only that we might possibly have hunted more. Perhaps, after all, the best thing I can say of the present volume of "Baily's Directory" is that in all points it is equal to, and in some even better than, its predecessors.

X.

SQUASH RACKETS.

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME.

THE simplicity of the game represents much of its charm, whereas its inexpensiveness puts its pleasures within everybody's reach. In one respect it resembles golf. However moderate a player you may be, in nine cases out of ten you may be certain of finding an equally moderate opponent; you are never at a loss for want of one, and it requires only two to make a game. There are many grades of players, and anyone who has played rackets is bound to have an advantage over the novice as the principles are very similar in each game, though the pace is so different. In rackets the more frequently you volley the greater your advantage; whereas in squash the longer you wait and watch the ball the better; in fact, in the majority of long rallies it pays to take everything that is possible off the back wall. Comparing rackets with squash is rather like comparing batting on a fast wicket to batting on a slow one, with this difference, that in cricket the ordinary batsman would very much sooner bat on a fast wicket, especially if the wicket were as true as the floor of a racket court. Whereas in squash the player finds the slower game far easier. Many men too slow for excellence in rackets can reach a high standard in squash.

The most important feature of the game, both for beginner and expert, is the knowledge of how to use and control the feet, which is so necessary for perfect balance and quick recovery. Like all moving ball games, the player who gets his feet in the proper position before his eye and wrist come into play is bound to have the advantage over the player who merely uses strength and trusts to his eye.

It is a curious freak of Nature that nearly everybody beginning to learn squash invariably hits the ball off the wrong foot, and a great many quite good players continue to do so. My advice to anyone who wishes to improve his game is to grasp the importance of the feet being in the right place for the true stroke. After a certain amount of practice this will become second nature to you. You will unconsciously be able to think of the position of the feet during the rally before the ball is about to be returned. It will save you no end of running about in a long rally, and will enable you to obtain much more than your fair share of the middle of the court, which is the position of command directly you assume the attack. Squash is generally supposed to be very hard exercise, but in reality it ought not to be so. The better player you become the less need you find of hard hitting, which is not a necessity, and except in rare instances during a long rally, is a disadvantage, as it gives your opponent a longer time to play the ball, which he can take off the back wall from nearly all hard hits, and consequently gives him more time to collect his thoughts and get into the proper position for the next stroke.

It is impossible to insist too much upon the necessity of being quick and neat upon your feet, as the feet must be in their proper position before the simultaneous action of the eye and wrist in the stroke. The player who masters this apparent difficulty will be more than repaid when he finds how much less ground he has to cover in an ordinary game, thereby saving himself unnecessary exertion. Perhaps it would be as well to give a definite description of what is meant by "proper position." Whenever you are returning a ball fore-handed, always have the left foot forward and the right foot behind you, and if back-handed, the right foot forward and the left foot behind, and in each case always face the side wall when about to return the ball to the front wall. Take care to have plenty of room to make your strokes, *i.e.*, do not get too near the ball when in the act of striking, or, in other words, open out as you are about to hit the ball. While waiting to return

the ball, hold your racket about the level of your face, and hit the ball as late as possible after it has bounced, *i.e.*, as near the floor as possible; timing and placing will come to you much more easily if you, so to speak, pick the ball off the floor with your racket. Hit under the ball with a wrist stroke and not on top of it, as in lawn tennis, with the forearm.

A common fault after mastering the proper position of the feet is a tendency to stretch the front foot right out when making your stroke. It is far better to take two little steps on the toes, as this helps you to keep the balance of the body and enables you to turn from a fore-hand to a back-hand stroke, or *vice-versâ*, with the greatest possible rapidity. It is important not to grip the racket at all tightly, and the position of the thumb should be straight down the handle of the racket. Should the ball cling close to or only just come off the back wall, it is advisable to slip the hand right up to the head of the racket. By this means you can, so to speak, pick off the back wall many a ball that would be impossible to take with a fully-extended racket, and this is one of the reasons why it is important to hold the racket very loosely when returning the ball. Another point is that a loosely-held racket, besides giving the wrist free play, allows you to play "drop" strokes, which are such a delight both to the player and onlooker when well timed and placed. This can only be accomplished when the player is such a master of his stroke as to have enough "touch" to feel the ball leave his racket. Why squash is such a good game is that it is the finest training for every other form of hard exercise. The hunting man can keep his weight down with the same facility that the boxing man who is training can improve his quickness of foot, or the polo player his touch and judgment of length. Clubs and dumbbells are all very well in their way, but they are apt to keep the body too rigid and give the brain no opportunity of thought, besides creating muscles too large for lissomness where pace as well as stamina is required. No game will so well keep a cricketer in condition, or, for the matter of that, a footballer also. An intelligent squash player will improve his off-side play at cricket out of all knowledge, and his timing of the ball, especially if he makes a point of playing every ball well on his toes. In squash the ball is uncourtously struck at the moment of impact between the legs, or otherwise the ball would be hit either into the roof or at some other point out of court; so in orthodox batting every stroke should be made between the legs with the weight of the body on the front leg in the case of an offensive stroke, and the weight on the back leg in defence. For private schools there is no better method of getting a good cricket eleven together than by squash. It teaches the young player to think quickly and move without effort. Another point of interest to cricketers is that it will preserve your throwing as long as you are able to play the game. All first-class racket players are naturally adepts at squash. But with pains and perseverance anyone who will take the trouble to master his feet can become a respectably good player. I have endeavoured to set forth a few of the many points of this fascinating pastime in the hope that they may prove an incentive to new devotees, by this means swelling the number of squash players, and ensuring the game the unqualified success it undoubtedly deserves. Just one word as to service. In rackets service counts tremendously, but in squash it is very difficult to score by service. My advice is, preserve your energies for the rally. When serving, tighten the hold of your racket, but only hit softly, *i.e.*, do not let the ball come off the back wall except as an occasional surprise, so as to get your opponent on the run unawares. The more you play this game, the more fascination it has for you. Its inherent simplicity does not prevent the satisfaction derivable from the attainment great skill.

G. J. V. WEIGALL.



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GERMAN ARMY REMOUNTS.

TH E East Prussian horse.

far famed for many a long year throughout the Fatherland, is gradually gaining reputation in other countries. A sure sign that this breed includes worthy representatives of the equine race is the fact that some of them passed the criterion of an English show well, and bore off several prizes in London this year. These horses count, and rightly so, as the best breed in their own country, and they provide about two-thirds of the entire army remounts, the *élite* of which go to the guard regiments in Berlin.

In the year 1713 the Prussian studs, that before had only produced steeds for the Royal stables, were taken under the direction of the State. Until that date the greater part of the army remounts used to be purchased in foreign lands; whole regiments recruited their steeds beyond the boundaries; for instance, the Hussars, whose remounts were driven in half-wild herds from Wallachia, Moldau or the Ukraine. Many of these animals proved unserviceable on account of their bad temper, others succumbed to diseases contracted by the way; so that, in spite of their low price, the bargain was an unsatisfactory one. Prussia's principal studs are Trakehuen, Graditz and Beberbeck. Situated in the plains of the Elbe, near the point where that river leaves the Province of Saxony on its course northwards, Graditz alone produces thorough-breds. In 1877 the Frederick-William Stud, that was founded about a century before, was moved to Beberbeck, in Hesse, where a well known breed of saddle-horses are reared. There are other large studs in Bavaria, Württemberg, Hanover and Brunswick, and a number of smaller ones are scattered about the Empire. The King of Prussia, Frederick William I., who, it will be remembered, was the father of Frederick the Great, founded Trakehuen in 1732, and this stud became the nucleus of the East Prussian breed. A fine, racy-looking animal, the Trakehuer has a small, well-set-on head, strong back and deep girths. The importation of Arabs has given place to that of English thorough-breds, and now about one-third of the stallions belong to the last-named breed.



OUT FOR EXERCISE.

known fact in Germany that this breeds develops slowly. The East Prussian is not suitable for work before his sixth year; carefully and gradually broken in, the horse proves indefatigable and is an ideal cavalry remount. The country is able to provide the entire remounts, a matter of about ten per cent. yearly of the whole number. The reason for this is not only the excellent organisation of the State studs, but also the fact that in East Prussia, that has more horses to the square mile than any other part of Germany.

Remounts are purchased annually, principally from breeders, by a military commission at the remount fairs that

The mares are half-breeds, and the point aimed at is the production of a racy half-bred. Trakehuen provides stallions for most of the Prussian studs.

East Prussia, with its vast plains of meadow land, well watered, with a cold yet bracing climate, is eminently suited for the production of a hardy breed of horses. But it is a well



THE FINISHED PRODUCT.

take place throughout the whole German Empire. The young horses, from three to five years old, are sent to the army depots until they are fit for service. Most of the breeders are unable to keep the foals longer than three years; experience teaches that if put to farm work at so early an age faults are apt to result. In the depots the animals develop normally under proper care; when strong enough they are sorted to suit different purposes, and fetched by the regiments to which they are allotted. After eighteen months of careful training they take their place in the ranks. The proposed enlargement of the German Army will put the remount commissions to a hard test this year, as an additional seventeen thousand horses, fit for immediate service to be provided.

BARONESS VON ROTBERG.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

THE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1913.

THIS Order has now been in operation for six months, and we are able to form some estimate of its utility. Between May 1st and September 30th, a period of five months, the number of animals notified for slaughter in Great Britain was 2,781, which is at the rate of about 7,000 per annum. This does not seem a large number in view of the statement frequently made that the disease is rampant among cattle, and among dairy cows in particular. The proportion is equal



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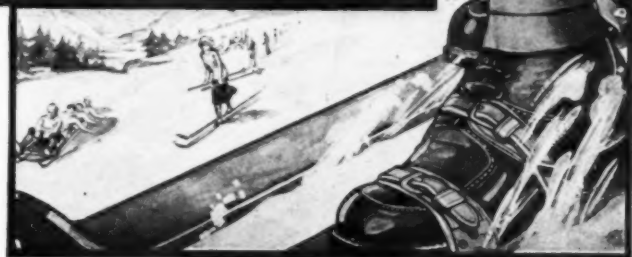
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to only one per 1,000 if all the cattle in the country be considered, or one in every 400 if the number of cows and heifers only be taken as the denominator. It is evident, I think, that if the present slaughtering rate of 7,000 is not accelerated, it will be many a year before any great result is produced. Two weak points in the Order disclose themselves: 1. The Order applies only to cows suffering from diseased udders and to bovine animals affected with tuberculosis *with emaciation*. Unless therefore a tuberculous animal (other than cows with bad udders) is emaciated, it is outside the scope of the Order, and constitutes a probable source of infection to healthy animals. The Board of Agriculture, in framing the Order, were quite alive to this fact, and in their letter of February 17th last to local authorities they indicated that further action might be possible in the future when experience had been gained. Even at this early date it seems clear that a further step should be taken and the Order made applicable at some earlier stage of the disease than the commencement of emaciation. What that stage should be is for the veterinary experts of the Board to suggest, but probably the matter might be left to the judgment of the chief veterinary inspector in each district, the test being whether the animal in question is or is not a source of danger to other cattle.

2. If an owner objects to an animal being slaughtered, the local authority is forbidden to slaughter until the special authority of the Board has been obtained. This power of objection should not be left in an owner's hands so far as cows with diseased udders and emaciated cattle are concerned. No matter how badly affected an animal may be, such an objection ties the hands of the local authority until the Board has been consulted. True, the animal must be isolated; but it must be fed and watered and attended to, and on most farms it is not possible to guarantee that the attendant does not carry the disease to other animals, and possibly also to human beings.

The existing method of valuation is also cumbrous and liable to cause misunderstanding. The valuer, before slaughter, must

fix two values, one on the footing of the animal proving to be tuberculous, and the other on the footing of its not proving tuberculous. In the latter case the full value plus £1 is paid as compensation; in the former the compensation depends on the character or extent of the disease. If "advanced" tuberculosis is present, the compensation payable is one-fourth of the value, subject to a minimum of 30s.; if the disease is not "advanced," three-fourths of the value is paid. Theoretically, there is something to be said for this differentiation, but in practice it is not desirable, and it would be better to allow valuers to make a hard-and-fast bargain with owners, subject, perhaps, to some maximum in the case of emaciated animals, or the owner of such animals might simply be left with the skins, which, in most cases, is all he is entitled to. Where animals are obviously in an advanced state of tuberculosis, owners would be well advised to slaughter them themselves without invoking the aid of the compensation clauses of the Order. The value of the skin would equal the amount of the compensation, and a considerable expense would be saved to the country and to the rates.

J. C.

CLOVER SICKNESS.

Science has disposed of many ancient beliefs and superstitions in regard to agriculture, and the latest to come under its destructive light is what was called "clover sickness." The old-fashioned farmer and, indeed, many who are young, are in the habit of speaking of land as being clover sick, as though the soil had been exhausted by growing this crop on it. But research has shown that the disease is in the plant itself and due to two distinct parasites. One is an "eelworm," *Tylenchus devastatrix*, Kühn and the other a fungus called *Sclerotinia trifoliorum*, Eriksson. A third parasite, the red clover gall gnat, *Amblyspatha ormerodi*, produces in red clover symptoms closely resembling those of plants attacked by the eelworm. A new leaflet, issued by the Board of Agriculture, describes these parasites, shows when infection takes place, and how the disease may be combated.

ROUND THE WORLD.

IT is remarkable to observe how, from being as a whole the most stay-at-home nation in the world, we Britons have become the most travelled; but there are still many people who would gladly see something more of foreign countries, and especially of British possessions Overseas, who hesitate to face the worry and exertion of independent travel, and at the same time object to the alternative of being shepherded about with flocks of strangers. To these we would recommend the excellent long-distance tours arranged by the P. and O. Company. We have mentioned in a former issue the tour to India and Ceylon, which allows a long break of the journey in Egypt. This tour has proved so successful that the Company have enlarged on the idea, and now have planned a series of tours, by means of arrangements, where necessary, with other steamship and railway companies, so that, without any of the bother attendant on personally fitting in arrivals and departures and unavoidable transfers, the traveller may journey round



PENANG: NATIVE CARTS.



CEYLON: A NATIVE DANCE.

the world at will. Going eastward, late autumn is the best time for the tour, as one thus gets the best weather in Egypt and Japan and avoids the hot season in India, etc. Eight or nine months should afford ample time to visit the most interesting places in each country, though, of course, a longer period would naturally enhance the pleasure of the journey and the benefit to be derived from it. The tours vary considerably, some of the more direct taking in Egypt, India, the Straits Settlements, China, Japan and the United States; while others include Australia, New Zealand, and touch at Tahiti, Honolulu, etc.; but all are planned to enable the traveller to see what is worth seeing in as leisurely and comfortable a manner as possible, and with the minimum of trouble and additional expense. Full particulars of these world tours, twenty-one in number, and of the Mediterranean weekly tours, including Spain, South of France, Malta, Egypt, etc., will be found in a booklet entitled "Around the World: Combination Tours," obtainable from the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, 122, Leadenhall Street, E.C., and Northumberland Avenue, W.C., or the Company's agents throughout the world.



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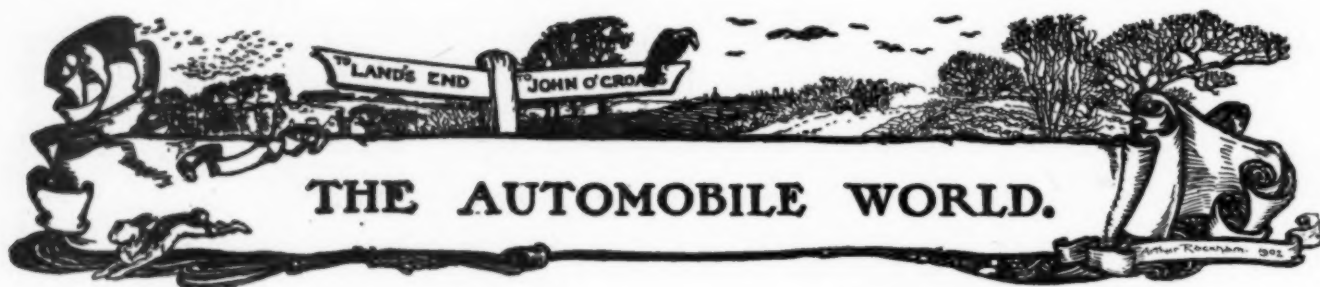


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OLYMPIA AND ITS LESSONS.

IF the annual motor show in London serves no other purpose, which we are far from suggesting is the case, it affords a convenient opportunity for attempting to gauge the progress which the manufacturers have made during the preceding twelve months. The Olympia Exhibition is of a far more International character than the Paris Salon de l'Automobile, and, in fact, is more representative than any of the displays that are held in other capital cities of the world. In these days it is no longer safe to draw general conclusions from the products of any one country, and in order to gain a just perspective of the automobile industry as a whole it is essential that the late-comers should be represented equally with the pioneers, and that the old idea be firmly put aside, that everything that is good in automobile design must necessarily proceed from two or three nations. The motoring movement in the course of its brief history has seen some strange ups and downs, and the leaders of fashion of one year have too often quickly succumbed to the enervating influence of popularity and left others to take their places in the van of progress.

At Olympia one sees side by side the best and latest cars that the leading firms of Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Belgium have to offer. America, which gave us the electric self-starter and showed what could be done in the way of price reduction, by means of standardisation and enormous outputs, is, perhaps, less worthily represented, as up to the present few attempts have been made by high-class firms in the United States to gain a footing in the European market. American influence, nevertheless, is now very strong in motor factories on this side of the Atlantic, and it would be exceedingly interesting to be able to examine at Olympia more examples from the States of their best workmanship and design.

The prevailing note of this year's exhibition is undoubtedly luxury. The same has been said of many previous shows, but never with greater truth than on the present occasion. For the moment the makers of cars and their satellites, the coach-building and accessory firms, seem to be concentrating their energies on adding to the comfort of the motorist. His or her ears must not be offended by the slightest noise or rattle from mechanism or

coachwork; jolts and jars from road inequalities must be eliminated as far as is humanly possible; if the owner drives himself he must be given absolute protection from the weather, and his seat must be an armchair, adjustable precisely to suit his length of leg and arm; inside passengers must be accommodated in the style of a lady's boudoir; and even the windows must be capable of being opened or shut with a minimum of effort; electric lighting in every part of the car is regarded as a *sine qua non*; hygiene in the way of warming and ventilation is beginning to receive its due share of attention; and, lastly, our old enemy, the starting handle, has received, through the medium of the self-starter, a blow from which it is not likely to recover. All this solicitude for the bodily welfare of the motorist is doubtless to the good, if it be not accompanied by a corresponding neglect of other considerations which affect his pocket only. One leaves Olympia, however, with a feeling that little progress is being made, at any rate, by the leaders of the industry, in such matters as simplicity, accessibility, reduction of running costs, and the inexpensive replacement of worn parts.

One has heard much of late of "motoring for the million," but this phase of the movement is less in evidence at Olympia than might be expected. There are medium-priced machines in fair profusion, even if they are not always given great prominence on the stands, and a few cheap light cars; but the "luxury" car seems to overshadow them and to convey a general impression that motoring, as represented at Olympia this week, is not a pursuit for the man of small means. In truth, the cheap car does not appear to advantage when staged side by side with, say, a Rolls-Royce, a Wolseley or a Napier, and it is, perhaps, as well that some of the new light vehicles have been reserved for the Cycle-car Show which immediately succeeds the present display at Olympia. It has often been suggested that the congestion at the annual exhibition could be relieved by dividing it into two, and devoting one half of the time to cheap and medium-powered types, and the other half to the more expensive models. We believe that some such scheme would help the small car trade and be appreciated by its customers, as, under present conditions, the man with £150 to £250 to spend is more likely to be discouraged than



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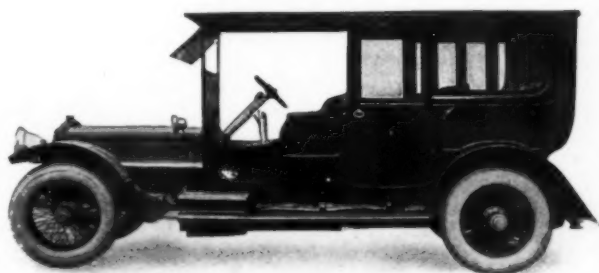
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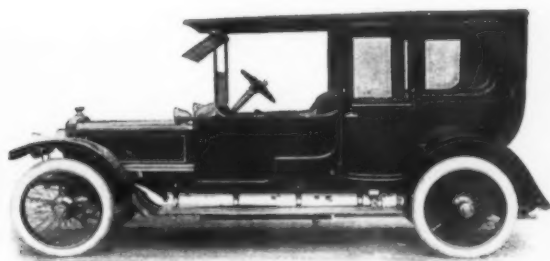
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encouraged by a visit to Olympia, where the vast majority of the cars staged bear no resemblance to the type of vehicle for which he is searching.

On the mechanical side the exhibition is singularly lacking in novelty. Compared with the immense improvements made every twelve months in the early stages of the movement, a period of stagnation in design has been reached. A very few years ago, the firm which announced in the autumn that its current models had given such general satisfaction that no alterations were contemplated was generally suspected, and often with truth, of having unsold stock on its hands, which must be disposed of before the new year's output was displayed to the public. Nowadays, many even of the best makers are not ashamed to stage cars which are

It is true that the essential features of nineteen cars out of twenty are the same, but there is an almost endless variety in the design and arrangement of each separate part. It seems somewhat strange that in spite of the enormous fund of experience at their disposal makers are as far as ever from agreement as to what is the best system of engine lubrication or of water circulation, what is the best form of carburettor for all-round purposes, which type of clutch—the leather-covered cone, the single plate or the multiple disc—is to be preferred, what position is best for the gear-box, how the brakes should be arranged, what form of rear springs affords most comfort, and so on. These and dozens of other questions seem to be as far removed from definite solution as they ever were, and one explanation is probably to be found in the fact that no answer is possible, as every device has its advantages and disadvantages whose relative importance is purely a matter of opinion.

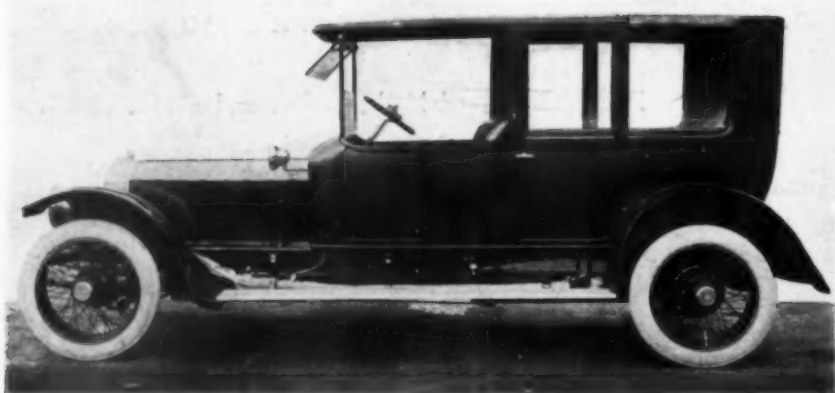
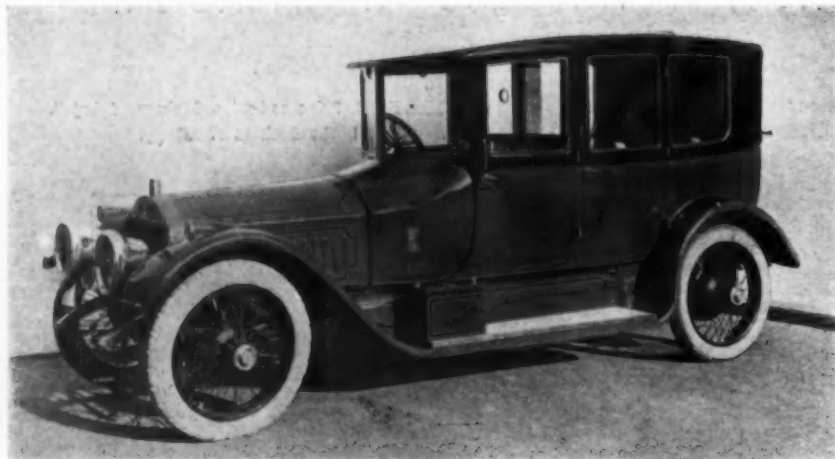
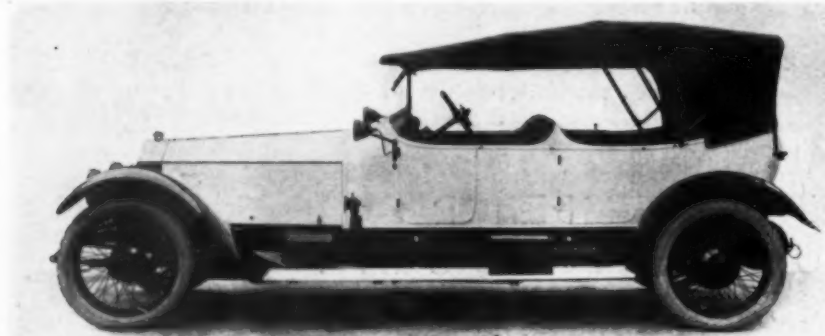
Another explanation is forthcoming in the improvements which have often saved a given design from supersession. Take, for instance, the leather clutch or the poppet valve type of engine as an example. The former, in its early crude state, was found to be unsatisfactory as cars increased in power, and multiple disc and other forms of clutch were invented to replace it. Before the change became universal, however, improvements were made in the design and construction of the leather cone variety, and to-day it more than holds its own against its rivals. The sleeve-valve engine was largely the result of the demand for a power unit more silent and more flexible than the poppet-valve motor of the day. For a short period the poppet valve seemed doomed, but the makers of the older type of engine hastened to eliminate its weak points, and the advance of the sleeve valve was quickly checked. The latter has attained the position of a proved and standard device, but it has long ceased to threaten seriously the existence of the poppet valve. Instances of a similar character could be multiplied almost indefinitely—the silent chain for driving the cam-shaft in place of noisy gear wheels, the worm gear in the back axle to obviate the hum of the bevels, both met by improvements in the construction of the older devices which rob the newer of much of their advantage.

It is noticeable, as we remarked above, that the present tendency of design is mainly directed towards eliminating noise and increasing the general comfort of the driver and passenger. As regards the former object, makers seem almost to have been working in a circle. They commenced with the engine and eliminated the worst sources of noise, only to find that the transmission had then become the chief cause of offence. Some advance having been made towards a silent transmission, the engine became unpleasantly audible again. Then the existence of body rattles and squeaks, hitherto unsuspected, was plainly revealed, and the coachbuilders having attended to the matter, the necessity for further improvements in the transmission was obvious. For several years past, in fact, the up-to-date maker's time has been largely occupied in the elimination of noises of one kind or another, and it is significant of the importance that purchasers attach to silence that the most popular cars of to-day are the quietest, and that the noisy vehicle is practically unsaleable in this country.

It is not merely a question of silent engines and quiet running transmission gear. Minute attention has had to be paid to such hitherto unsuspected sources of noise as mudguards, under shields, running boards, tool boxes and even petrol tanks, to say nothing of universal joints, brakes and brake connections, shackle pins, torque tube couplings and, in fact, any and every part of the car from which some rattle, squeak or drumming sound may arise. Truly the manufacturer has a difficult task

to fulfil, and perhaps he may be excused if, for the moment, he appears to be devoting less than their due amount of attention to matters which do not seem to appeal so strongly to a large section of his customers.

Next to silence comes, apparently, good springing in the estimation of the motorist of to-day, if we disregard the well-nigh universal demand for self-starters and electric lighting. In this department of a car's anatomy there seems to be a distinct though gradual tendency towards what is generally described as the cantilever system of suspension. Introduced in very early days by the Lanchester firm, far in advance of its time in this and several other respects, the cantilever spring has been adopted during the last year or two by such firms as Rolls-Royce, Siddeley-Deasy and others with marked success, the latest convert being



THREE SMART CARS AT OLYMPIA.

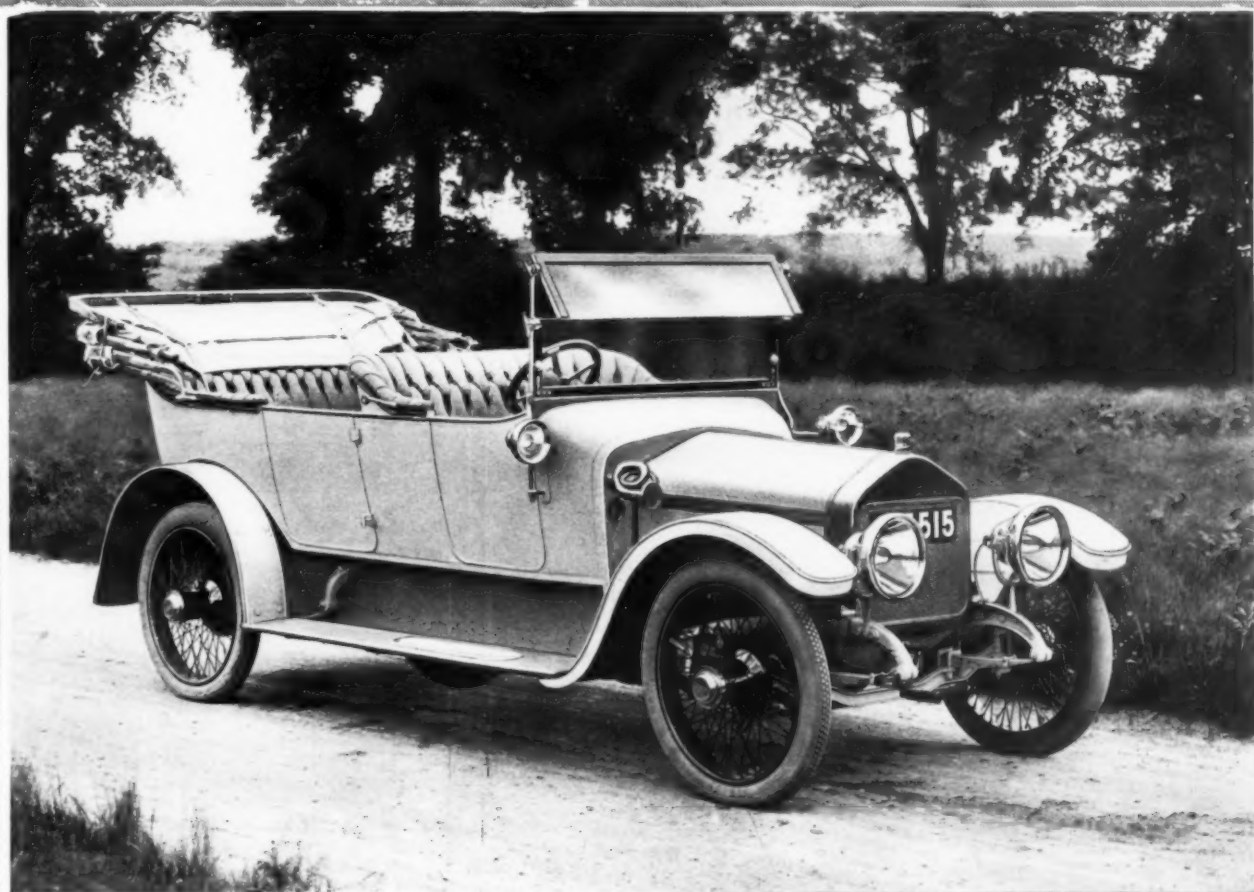
- (1) A study in black and white on the Rolls-Royce stand; (2) A Cunard saloon landaulet on the Napier stand; (3) A Hooper limousine landaulet.

exact replicas of those they showed a year ago and to maintain that for the moment they see no opening for further improvements. It is on this account, presumably, that the practice of displaying complete cars only is rapidly growing, many important firms this year, for the first time in their history, failing to stage even a single chassis. The practice is certainly to be regretted, as it has begun to rob Olympia of much of its interest for the practical motorist, for whom a large proportion of the car makers' stands now possess little more attraction than those of the coach-builders in the Annexe. Belief in the theory that it is the body which sells a car can be carried to excess, as a well finished chassis, even of a year-old model, never fails to draw the crowd.

If novelties are conspicuous by their absence, it by no means follows that anything approaching standardisation has been reached.

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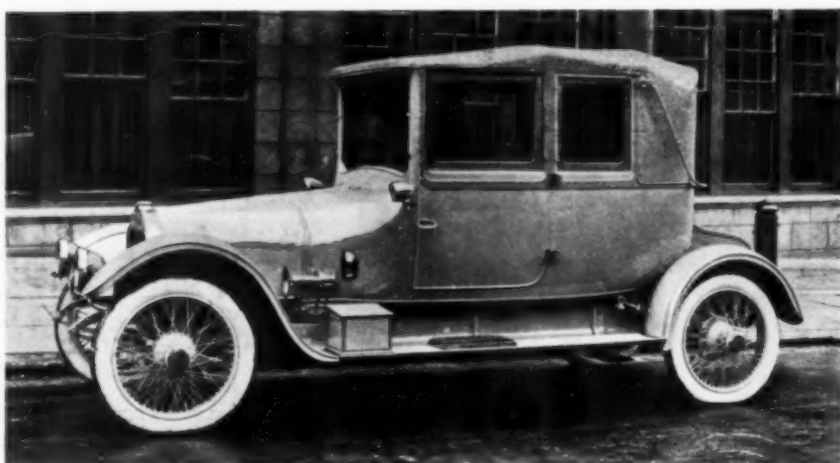
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the Daimler Company. That it gives a very easy suspension is beyond question, and it seems a pity, at least to those with old-fashioned ideas as to what is sound design, that the cantilever system is often associated with a gear-box of the floating or semi-floating type, which largely increases the unsprung weight at the rear of the car. The practice of incorporating the gear-box with the rear axle casing, or supporting it at a point where at least a portion of its weight is not taken by the springs, is distinctly on the increase, and may be included among the few distinct tendencies in design which the present show has revealed. The advantage of a gear-box so positioned that no distortion of the frame can affect its alignment is doubtless considerable, and may be found to counterbalance any objection to an increase in the weight of the moving parts which comes directly on the tires without the intervention of the springs.

At any rate, the chassis on view at Olympia make it clear that the many intricate problems presented by the design of a car's transmission and springing are receiving careful attention at the hands of the more progressive makers in the industry, and that gradual improvement is resulting. For instance, the practice of making the rear springs do treble duty as spring, torque stay and radius rod is far less common than formerly, and there are fewer found to defend it even on the score of cheapness. The device most frequently employed nowadays to relieve the rear springs of functions which do not properly concern them is to surround the propeller shaft with a casing which terminates at its forward end in a large trunnion or cup type joint and relieves the springs from the torque of the bevel gear and sometimes acts as a radius rod to take the propelling effort as well. Mention should also be made of the gradual disappearance of the flat fronted

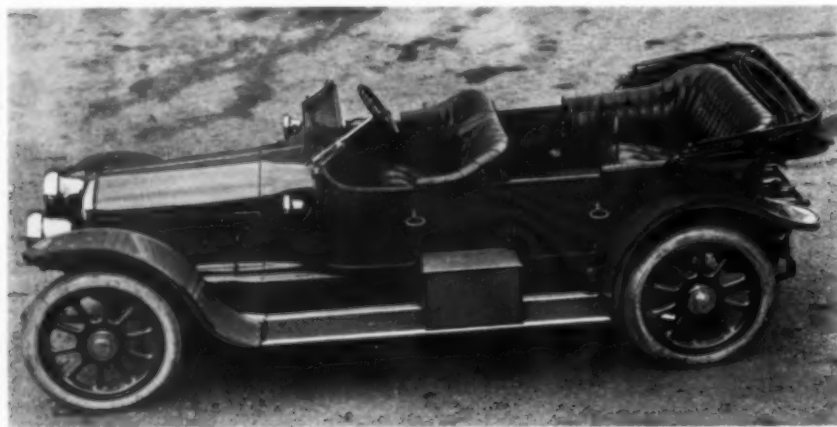


1914 17-25 H.P. ARMSTRONG-WHITWORTH CABRIO-COUPÉ.

likely to be widely adopted in the future. Into the merits and demerits of the various types of electric self-starters there is no need to enter now, as the subject was fully discussed in a recent issue of COUNTRY LIFE. As was then shown, trouble is almost certain to be experienced, owing to the heavy discharge of current demanded from accumulators of necessarily small capacity. In this connection it may be that the Edison battery, which is reputed to be able to withstand ill-treatment which would speedily ruin an accumulator of the lead type, may come to the rescue of the electric self-starter. Mention of the Edison cells reminds us that the electric propelled vehicle has reappeared at Olympia after an absence of some years. One is to be seen on the Arrol-Johnston stand, and who can say with certainty that this solitary vehicle is not the forerunner of many others? The Edison battery is stated to be giving excellent results in use, and it may be that for certain limited purposes the future will see a marked revival in electricity for road traction.

The general trend of prices, so far as low and medium powered cars are concerned, is certainly in a downward direction. It may be difficult to point to an instance of an old model being listed at a lower figure than was the case a year ago, but in a large number of cases additional accessories, notably electric lighting outfits and even self-starters, are now included in the price. It may be questioned whether the purchaser to whom initial cost is a matter of first importance would not have preferred to see the price reduced by £20 or so, rather than be presented with fittings which he does not regard as essential. Manufacturers, however, seem to be reluctant to cut the prices of existing models, and evidently regard it as wiser policy to give better value in the shape of a more completely equipped car. Where

preparations are being made to meet the demand for a light car the case is different, and the makers who are adding such a vehicle to their list of standard models seem to be vying with each other to reduce the price as low as possible. The big car market is evidently in a very healthy state, as there is little indication here of any lowering of the cost of the complete vehicle. A few years ago it was prophesied that the demand for the £1,000 car was almost exhausted. As a fact, the sale of cars of the most costly type continues to increase by leaps and bounds, and many motorists who used to regard £500 or £600 as their maximum are now willing to spend twice or three times that amount. The result is seen in an increased number of firms, who are endeavouring to attract this very profitable class of

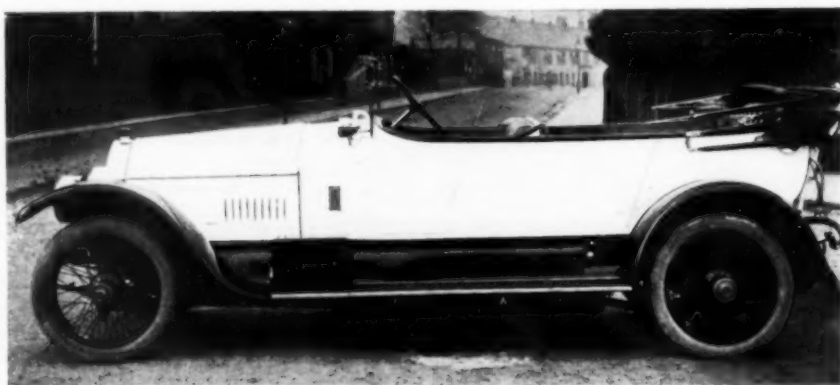


30 H.P. AUSTIN "VITESSE" TORPEDO PHAETON.

radiator and the square type dashboard, both of which are unsuited to the body fashions of the day.

Since last November electric lighting has made great strides, and it is significant of the inroad made on acetylene that all the great lamp firms have hastened to produce their own car dynamos. Had some of the ingenuity lavished on the design of electric installations been devoted to the perfection of acetylene lighting, the latter might have offered a more strenuous resistance to its new rival. It may be that there is still a future for an improved system of gas illumination for certain types of cars in which low first cost, simplicity of mechanism and small bills for repairs and renewals are of first importance. The sudden popularity of electric lighting, however, is due, in part at least, to the urgent demand for self-starters. A dynamo, switchboard and battery having been installed, it is not a great step to provide a small electric motor for starting the engine. A year or so ago there seemed some doubt as to whether compressed air or electricity would provide the engine starting mechanism of the future. To-day electricity has taken an easy lead, owing largely to the fact that the makers found that part of the necessary installation was already required to meet the demand for electric lighting.

There are still one or two compressed air systems in use, notably the Wolseley, and it must be remembered that in this case the apparatus which puts the engine in motion can also be utilised without additional complication to inflate the tires. On the other hand, the storage battery provides a ready means of warming the carburettor on a cold morning, an innovation for which we are indebted to the Cadillac firm, and one of no small value in these days of heavy fuels, and



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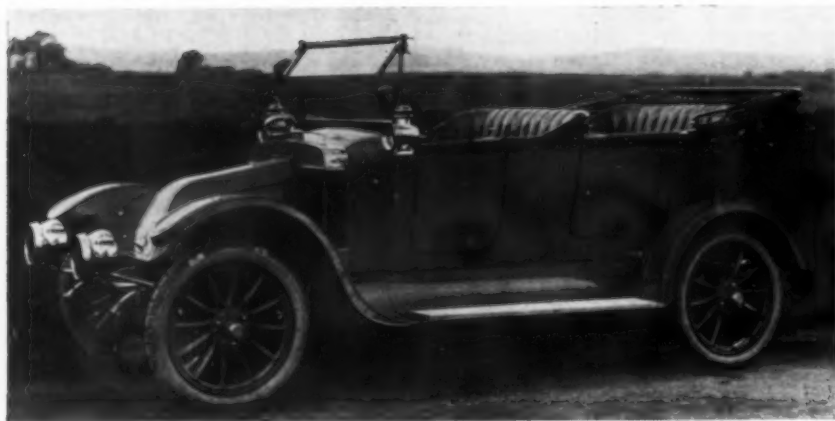
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1914 MODEL ARROL-JOHNSTON TOURING CAR.

purchaser by producing a chassis of the highest class fitted with the most luxurious body-work that the art of the coachbuilder can evolve. Such cars are more than ever in evidence at this year's show, and perhaps provide the best illustration of the progress that has been made since the self-propelled carriage was first made legal in this country seventeen brief years ago.

CARRIAGE-WORK AT OLYMPIA.

WITH the exception of one or two examples of boat-building on wheels, imported from the Paris Salon, there is, indeed, little that is startlingly new in body work at Olympia. Mulliners are showing a more or less new type in their combined saloon landaulet, which can be quickly and with comparative ease converted from a landaulet to an all-enclosed saloon body. Messrs. A. C. Penman too, exhibit a landaulet, in which the head is made to fold on a new principle, to avoid putting too much weight at the back of the car, and in Messrs. Cockshoot's (Manchester) stand there is shown for the first time a new cabriolet head called the "Pliable," which, in the wonderful ease with which it can be raised or dropped, will come as a revelation to those who are accustomed to the types in use hitherto. There are quite a number of novelties in the components or accessories used in body construction or adornment, but one can hardly call these startling departures in body work.

New types of hoods for cabriolets and landaulets, or of the ordinary Cape-cart pattern are numerous, all having for their main object easy manipulation by a single person; in fact, the "one man" idea, of which the "Kopalapso" was a pioneer, and which has grown and flourished exceedingly in regard to hoods for touring cars, is now being made to do duty in connection with the heavier hoods—or "heads" as they are technically called. It is curious that the idea did not originate with these heavy coverings, which are, as a rule, unwieldy and difficult to manipulate, instead of with the comparatively light Cape-cart hood. Now however, the coach-builder has at last awakened to the need for reform in respect to this item, and the example shown by Messrs. Cockshoot is evidence of what can be done by a little thought and ingenuity.

The arched doorway for limousines—first introduced into this country, we believe, by Mulliners—seems, on the whole, rather growing in favour. And, although it slightly complicates the roof construction, it does to some extent fulfil its original purpose of giving more head room in entering. The curve which it introduces into the line of the roof is in some cases most effective, although in others it constitutes anything but an improvement in appearance. In wind-screens there are not very many new patents, but what there are either make for a greater adjustability to circumstances, or embody new means of fixing the glasses at any angle. As an instance of the former the new Auster screen may be mentioned; this is not only divided horizontally, like an ordinary screen, but also vertically down the middle, so that when the screen at one side is closed, that at the other may be open, to suit the individual requirements of the passenger sitting opposite it. Another point that has not been generally noted is that the wooden framed wind screen is going rapidly out of use in favour of the lighter metal-framed variety, the tendency being to suppress the frame as far as possible; we anticipate, in fact, the "frameless" screen; and we noticed some at the Paris Salon which were almost frameless, having only very narrow metal side-pieces at each end of the glass, and nothing at all at top or bottom. A reference to wind-screens could hardly be complete without passing mention of "Triplex" safety glass, and more especially in connection with the elimination of frames. Ordinary plate-glass, as used for wind-screens, if not supported by some form of frame, must be made thicker and stronger, or it will not stand the shocks to which it is subjected, and if it breaks, the people

Progress at Olympia.

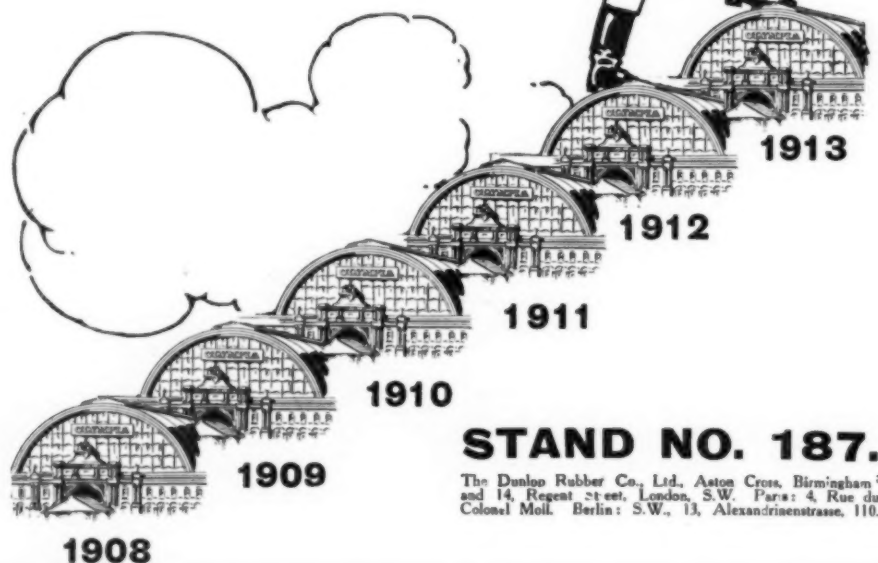
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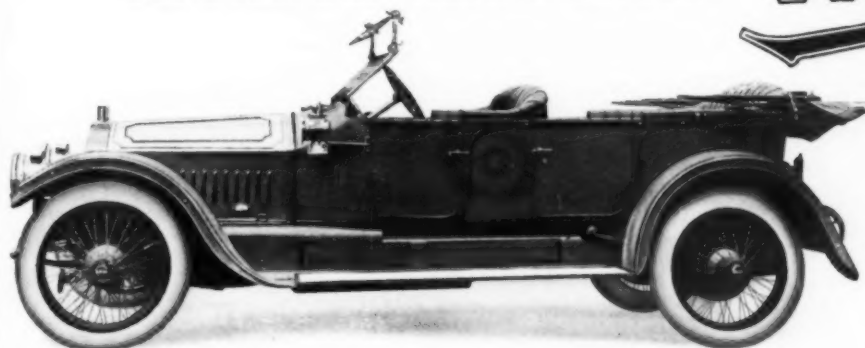
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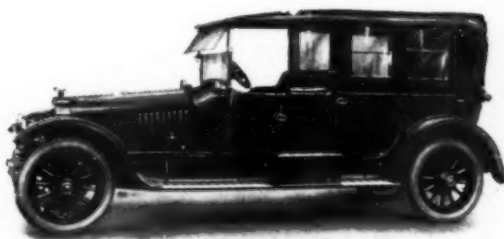
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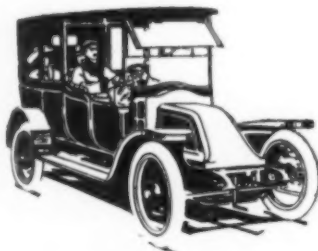
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A

behind it are in danger of serious injury. "Triplex," on the other hand, which is simply a sheet of celluloid to either face of which a sheet of glass is cemented under pressure, is mechanically very strong, and suffers very little from an accidental blow.

Adequate weather protection for the third seat has hitherto hardly received the attention that it deserves in the design of three-seaters. In isolated cases we have seen designs in which the third seat was also brought under the hood, or the hood extended backwards to protect the dicky; but in general, the subject has been neglected. In the all-weather body exhibited by Messrs. Salmons and Sons, a disappearing seat for an attendant is introduced at the back, and when this seat is not required, it slides into the back of the body out of sight. The Lanchester bodies call for attention not only for the original lines involved by a chassis of unconventional design, but on account of the way in which the problem of spare-wheel stowage is solved. Advantage is taken of the space between the rounded outer shell of the body at the back and the framing of the rear seat, and into this space the spare wheel is stowed away, the greater part of the rear outer panel being formed as a door hinged at the bottom. Two similar schemes were seen at the Paris Salon, one by Lamplugh and Co. and the other on a body by Rothschild. On paper the idea seems good enough; but in view of the difficulty of making doors that will not rattle it seems possible that the noise factor will arise and make it objectionable. Should this fear prove to be unfounded, one could not but feel glad that such an undesirable and unsightly excrescence as the spare wheel in its usual place on the off-side step had at length been got rid of.

There seems to be some little tendency to dispense with doors more or less. The matter is one of degree; in some of the B.S.A. touring models doors are only provided for the back seats, and access to the front is obtained by turning round the front seats and folding them up to the sides of the car. We cannot say we are taken with the idea, or that we can see any particular advantages in it from the car user's point of view. Nor can it count for much from the æsthetic standpoint, for now that really unobjectionable concealed hinges are to be had—and some were seen in Paris

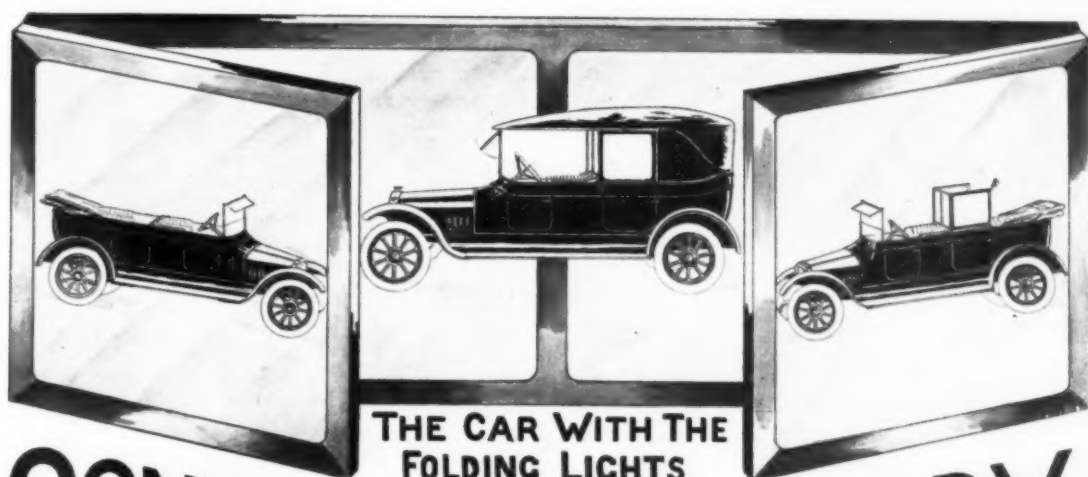


STRAKER-SQUIRE COUPE.

which fully merit this description—doors can be made practically invisible. The only objection to doors, apart from their cost to manufacture, is that they tend to become loose and rattle.

In the present show it is most noticeable to what a great extent the flush side is adopted. Hitherto the front body pillars in enclosed cars have formed a prominent feature in design usually ending in the once familiar scroll at the bottom, but with the flush side their presence is almost entirely concealed. Even the Daimler Company have come into line this year, and the big handsome limousine on their stand is a quite pleasing example of flush side design. Another car on the same stand, which is not of the company's manufacture but by Messrs. Hooper, has been built for Her Majesty the Queen. It is one of the few enclosed cars in the show upholstered in leather, and looks most useful and comfortable. In regard to design generally, it may be said, speaking broadly, that the chief features of the year are merely a moderate refinement of lines and a wider adoption—especially in enclosed cars—of the flush side.

Among body-builders there is still a considerable difference of opinion on the question of frameless windows, and although fashion forces most firms to supply them, many do so only under compulsion. It is complained that breakages are frequent and that it is very difficult to make the "runs" or grooves in which the windows work of just the degree of tightness necessary to prevent rattle, and at the same time not too tight to make raising or lowering as easy as it should be. If the glass is kept quite flat and straight construction difficulties are encountered, due to the curve in the side of the body. On the other hand, to curve the glass to suit every different shape of body would be very expensive. The Cunard Company, who are responsible for the five bodies on the Napier stand, have compromised by adopting a moderate curve and making it standard. It is, however, when we come to examine the methods of lifting that the frameless window problem reveals many difficulties. In the matter of mechanical window-lifters not much has been done since last year. Those already brought out do not seem to be quite satisfactory and are rather expensive and complicated. The window problem still remains to be solved, and doubtless before next show comes round we shall see considerable steps taken in this direction.



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OLYMPIA, STAND 164

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Complete Car with Argyll De Luxe Streamline Coachwork (only one quality) fully equipped for the road - - - **£575**

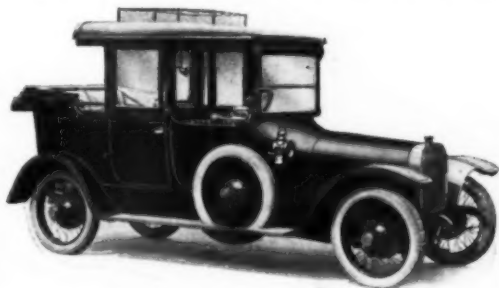
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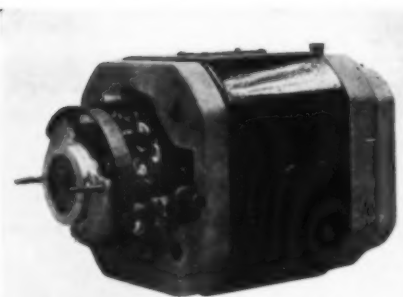
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LONDON SHOWROOMS: 6, GREAT MARLBOROUGH STREET, W. And at Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Cardiff, Liverpool, Newcastle, Hull, Manchester, Leicester, Leeds, etc.



SOME ACCESSORIES AT OLYMPIA.

AS usual, there is much to interest the motorist who visits the galleries at Olympia, where the makers and dealers in accessories have their stands and offer for immediate sale many things which have an irresistible attraction for the owner of a car. An exhibit of a somewhat novel character is that of the London Motor Garage Company, who show a complete equipment for a private garage, including a motor spirit safe for outside storage, an oil cabinet, a winch elevator, which obviates the necessity for a pit; a serviceable garage lathe, tire vulcanisers and other useful things of a similar character. Messrs. Dunhill, as usual, have a vast variety of clothing and accessories, including a fine new head-lamp, a four-note horn which plays tunes automatically, the notes being controlled by cardboard records, and a route and speed indicator. In the latter special strip maps are carried on rollers, which are revolved at the proper speed from one of the car wheels, the position of the car being indicated by a pointer. Home vulcanisers are to be seen on many stands, notably those of Harvey, Frost and Co. and J. Lacoste. The



C.A.V. STARTING MOTOR WITH END COVER REMOVED.



THE GARGOYLE GREASE CAN.

latter shows an automatic device, known as the Vulcan, which is claimed to prevent over-vulcanising, that bugbear of the motorist who does his own tire repairs. The automatic device consists of a shutter which ensures the right amount of heat for repairs of any thickness, and extinguishes the lamp when the process is complete. A useful novelty is shown by the Atlas Syndicate in the

shape of an "Empty-Quick", petrol filler, a neat little apparatus which fits instantaneously any petrol can and enables the spirit to be quickly transferred to the tank without spilling and without the necessity for using a funnel. The Atlas Impulse tire pump sold by the same firm is well known to motorists, as thousands are now in use. Car dynamos are to be seen on every side as might be expected from the great popularity of electric lighting. In view of the vast experience acquired by the Bosch Company in the manufacture of magnetos of absolute reliability, the dynamo set placed on the market by the same firm merits close attention. The ap-



LODGE WEATHER-PROOF TERMINAL.



DUNLOP SOLUTION FLASK.

paratus is of very neat appearance and the design of the dynamo of the simplest. It is constructed to generate twelve volts at the low speed of 350 r.p.m., and the voltage is kept constant by a special regulator contained in the switch-box. This device gives a steady light, whatever the speed of the dynamo, and protects the battery from overcharge. The C.A.V. lighting sets have proved so successful in use that only minor alterations, such as a new brush gear, have been made in their construction. The firm, however, show a new set of head and side lamps, intended to meet the demand for well-made lamps at a low price. It is only in the natural order of things that Messrs. C. A. Vandervell should have produced an engine-starter to work in conjunction

We are exhibiting

Some handsome Cars at Olympia.

The following are samples of what we will exhibit—for sale.

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All the above are 1914 models, and will be equipped complete, ready for the road. All of them are for sale, to be delivered at the close of the Olympia Exhibition.

Write for full specifications.



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BRITISH THROUGHOUT.

The World's Best 15-20 h.p. Car

By virtue of 7 years' concentration on the
ONE MODEL ONLY

STRAKER-SQUIRE

WE have concentrated our entire energies and experiences for the past 7 years on the construction of ONE MODEL ONLY, with the result that we can now claim to have a medium-powered car which is

Second to None on the World's Market.

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ONE TYPE CHASSIS ONLY
Suitable for all types of bodies.

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specially arranged to suit each type of body.)

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The

Humber

"Eleven" at Brooklands

Nov. 5th broke the following Records in Class B:

50 Miles	at	75.71 m.p.h.
100 Miles	at	75.90 m.p.h.
ONE HOUR	at	75.88 m.p.h.

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HOLDS ALL RECORDS

in Class B, from the

Flying $\frac{1}{2}$ -Mile to 4 Hours

A fine range of HUMBER 1914 Cars, including the 11 h.p., were shown at **STAND 88**, Motor Show, Olympia.*"The car that you meet everywhere between Land's End and John o' Groat's."—vide Daily Press.*

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You cannot err in judgment by specifying a C.A.V. Dynamo Car Lighting Equipment. The pæans of praise accorded to this Simple, Safe and Certain System is, probably, the most convincing proof of its capacity for giving long and efficient service under all possible working conditions

*"The Queen has given permission to the Daimler Co. to exhibit at the forthcoming Show at Olympia Her Majesty's new 6-cylinder motor carriage equipped with British-built C.A.V. electric lighting set."**Morning Post, October 31st, 1913*

C. A. VANDERVELL & CO., LONDON, W.

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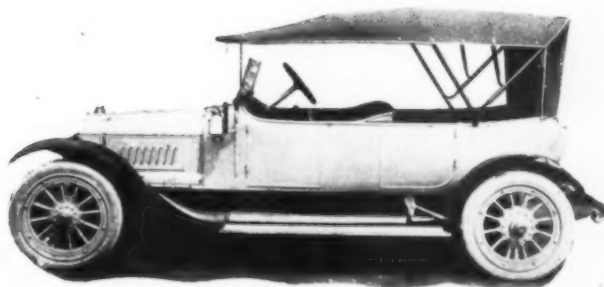


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DESIGNS

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Nov. 7th
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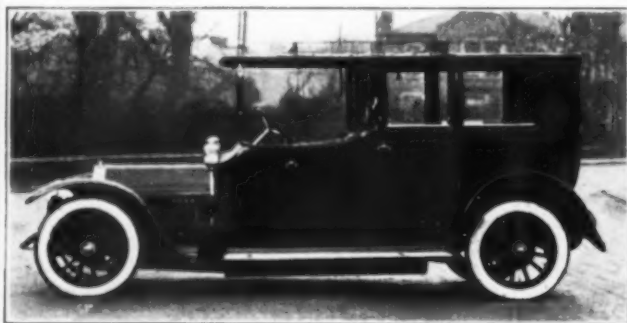
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BIGGLESWADE

Stand 152 Olympia

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MAYTHORN'S "CALLEDON" LANDAULETTE

Maythorn's Motor Bodies

MAKE THE MOST OF ANY CHASSIS

and cannot be surpassed for

**STYLE, LIGHTNESS, COMFORT,
AND DURABILITY.**

Special Drawings & Estimates on Application.

DORÉ & SONS

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ARTISTIC TAILORS

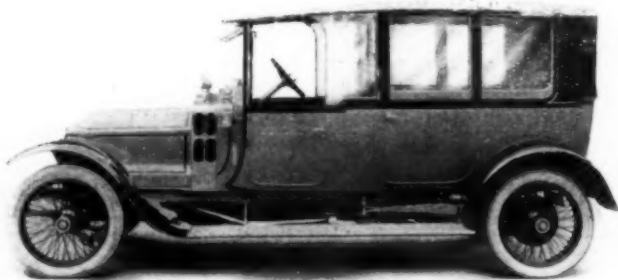
The "Doré" Overcoats from 63/- rain-proofed if desired, cut and made on new principles which give ease with elegance



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306, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
BROAD STREET HOUSE, E.C.
43, MOORGATE STREET, E.C.
80, KING WILLIAM ST., E.C.

* There is also a Ladies' Tailoring Department at this address.

with their electric lighting sets. The working of the apparatus is being demonstrated during the present week, and its simplicity and the ease with which it can be adapted to any car have been generally remarked. The starter operates by a friction contact with the periphery of the flywheel. A pedal fitted under the steering column brings the friction pulley into contact with the flywheel, and a plunger switch is then depressed, completing the circuit between the starting motor and the battery. The motor has been designed to give a powerful torque with a current within the safe limits of the battery for momentary discharge. Novelty in sparking plug demonstrations is to be seen on the accessory stand of White-Coleman Motors, Limited. Every practical motorist knows that the behaviour of a plug under pressure in the cylinders is sometimes very different from its behaviour in the air. In order that the Reflex plug, shown by the firm, may be seen working under the conditions which prevail in actual use, it is fitted to a cylinder, the top of which is closed by a piece of plate-glass one inch in thickness. Pressure is then pumped up to 10 lb. per square inch, and the plugs, supplied with current by a Mea magneto, can be seen sparking brightly. Another interesting sparking plug exhibit is to be seen on the stand of the Lodge Sparking Plug Company. It is strange that while every care should have been taken to protect all the other parts of the ignition system, the plugs should have been left exposed to wet and accidental damage. The new Lodge weather-proof terminal entirely covers in the connecting joint, with the result that short circuiting at the terminal becomes impossible. An ingenious device is exhibited on the Vacuum Oil Company's stand. It is known as the Vacuum Grease Cartridge, and its object is to avoid all soiling of the hands when filling grease-cups. By a simple turn of the key, the exact amount required exudes from the cartridge, the flow being regulated by the milled screw cap. Apart from the cleanliness of the device, a great saving in grease must result from its use. Another simple dirt and waste preventer is shown by the Dunlop Rubber



SIDDELEY-DEASY WITH CONNAUGHT BODY.

Company, in the shape of a new rubber-solution flask. There is no screw-on top, and the opening and sealing are automatic. The exact quantity of solution can be gauged to a drop.

THE WEIGHT OF STEEL WHEELS.

In last week's issue of COUNTRY LIFE, when discussing the respective merits of all-steel and wire wheels, we expressed the belief that the all-steel variety was the heavier of the two. Messrs. Sankey and Sons, whose steel wheels enjoy an excellent reputation and have been largely adopted by leading car manufacturers during the past few years, write to point out that in the matter of weight the advantage rests with the all-steel wheel. "The difference in weight," they say, "between the two types, though not considerable, is nearly always in favour of the pressed steel wheel. We have had numerous opportunities of verifying this, and on reading your statement we again weighed one of our wheels against a corresponding wire wheel which happened to be here on a car for which we are building a body. The difference in weight was about 4 per cent. in our favour. Other comparisons of different sizes of wheels show larger differences in our favour."

ITEMS.

The Queen's new Daimler car, which is on view at Olympia, is fitted with Continental "Oversize" tires. The makers calculate that the 80 per cent. to 100 per cent. increased mileage said to be obtainable from these tires ensures an ultimate saving in expense of at least 40 per cent.

The Aster Engineering Company are showing at Olympia a new type 8-10 h.p. engine, with a bore and stroke of 65mm. by 100mm. The four cylinders are cast in one piece and cooled by thermo-siphon circulation.

Eleven entries have been received up to date by the Royal Automobile Club for next year's Tourist Trophy Race in the Isle of Man. The firms represented are Minerva, Humber, Straker-Squire and Sunbeam. A number of other makers have signified their intention of entering single cars or teams.

We have received from the Warland Dual Rim Company a handsome album of photographs of a number of the best known cars, both British and foreign, fitted with the very ingenious removable rims manufactured by this firm. Apart from the evidence which the album affords of the popularity of the Warland rims, the souvenir constitutes an interesting and permanent record of the present-day fashions in coachwork, dashboards and radiators.



THE CASE FOR THE BADGER.

OUT of a mass of correspondence contributed to one of our daily papers in defence and accusation, respectively, of our old friend the badger, the conclusion appears to be very much what we should have anticipated at the outset—that the badger will gobble up anything edible that comes in his way. And what does that verdict amount to, translated into terms of the right practical way of dealing with such badgers as civilisation has left us? That is the practical question. Everyone is agreed that we do not wish to see rare animals exterminated. The badger is shown to do a certain amount of harm to the game-keeping and also to the agricultural interest. He will gobble up a sitting game bird if he gets the chance. On the other hand he will also, and does, gobble up a great many insects, and thus does active good to set against his active mischief. The conclusion, then, seems to be that while his numbers are moderate he does no injury for which he need be persecuted, and his numbers are moderate. We do not believe that there is any present danger of his extermination. He is nocturnal, and probably is a good deal more numerous than people suppose. Moreover, since it is very possible to live in close proximity with a large colony of badgers for many years and never see a sign of one of them, it is rather sentimental to urge that he is a really valuable friend. The argument, therefore, resolves itself rather into one in favour of leaving him much as we find him—not according him any special increase of protection and, at the same time, not persecuting him further. He has a claim to be let live; but no special claim to be let live very much more numerous than at present, and, indeed, we see but little danger of the badger increasing in such numbers as to become a nuisance.

MORNING FLIGHT-SHOOTING AND SOME OF ITS DRAWBACKS.

PROBABLY one of the most successful methods of obtaining a bag at morning flight is to discover some island or reef situated near a good duck-shooting mainland. Given that the mainland is at all regularly shot, it will be found that a great many ducks pass the day on the reef, and if the reef should happen to possess a pool or two of fresh water, one has all the concomitants of really successful morning flight-shooting. In the February of this year I found myself vainly pursuing widgeon, geese and mallards upon a series of lochs in one of the Hebrides. Off the coast was a reef or island to which, at the first alarm, all the mainland fowl retreated. Again and again, lying upon the point of land nearest to the reef, I first heard and, as the light grew stronger, saw companies of widgeon, mallard and teal winging their way to the island sanctuary, which, owing to three miles of rough sea, remained as unapproachable during the early weeks of the new year as it had been in the old since the previous October. Two attempts to reach the reef (which is almost covered at high tide) failed, owing to the surf being too high to allow a landing, but the third occasion was crowned with success, and two of us found ourselves crouching behind our respective boulders at half-past five of that February morning. The ducks began to arrive long before it was light, and at first were perceptible to the sense of hearing only; but as the sky began to brighten they kept on arriving in small companies, and as often as not circled two or three times round the reef. Not half nor a third of those that passed within range could be shot at, as the sea was still heavy and the current which ran between the rocks very swift, so that any bird falling in the sea was liable to be lost unless it happened to come down in a spot to which it was safe to send the dog. Notwithstanding these things, thirty-two duck and widgeon rewarded the early start, and it is certainly within the mark to say that, had it not been for the danger to the dog in retrieving, the bag might have been seventy. The last birds came in long after daylight—after half-past eight o'clock. On the following morning, the weather still holding good, I thought it would be interesting to visit the reef again, which we did, arriving there rather earlier than on the previous day. Although we stayed until eight o'clock, we saw but three ducks, a fact which illustrates very vividly the extraordinary quickness with which duck will desert a favourite

haunt at the first persecution there. For months the duck had been used to pass the day on the reef, only visiting the mainland at night, and, in the case of the mallards, coming back to the reef while it was still dark. The widgeon remained upon the mainland lochs until the crofters began to stir, when they, too, went off to the reef. As to the teal, they stayed on their mainland haunts later than either the mallard or widgeon. Returning to the mainland, I determined to see whether I could find any of the mallard which had failed to put in an appearance at morning flight, and soon found that they were scattered along a drain which intersects a large marsh. I had visited this drain quite often during the previous fortnight, and had hardly ever seen more than one or two mallards rise from it. But on this occasion the drain was full of them. I was much interested to see that, when I put them up, only two out of the whole number went off in the direction of the reef; all the rest flew inland, where later in the day I found some of them—the greater number, indeed—on the centre of a large loch, where they remained quite unapproachable and in perfect security.

It would seem that duck are more easily frightened away from their daylight resting-places than from their night haunts, in which they feed. This is natural, but I have more than once shot a good evening flight on two consecutive evenings at the same place, but have never had the least success when I have tried to get in a second morning flight in similar circumstances. This leads one to believe that if duck are much worried in their day haunts they will not stand it, but should they fail to find a real sanctuary will desert the district. There can be little doubt that some of the finest flight-shooting in the world is to be had by lying up at the day haunt, but woe-betide the owner or tenant of a duck shoot—I mean a duck shoot where the birds are purely wild—who overdoes it and visits all such places on his shoot too often. Every duck shoot, however modest, should possess a sanctuary, for, small though it may be, it will serve its purpose. Thus in the sea on the west side of the shoot I have been writing about there is a second reef, which can only be landed upon once or twice during the winter months. It is only a little rock, with a pool on it as big as an ordinary room, but as it is never disturbed, that pool accommodates a remarkable number of duck, and others sit around it on the rock like cormorants.

It is possible that when one comes to think of it, all free duck-shooting that is any good, or where the gunner has much chance of making a bag, owes its stock to some natural sanctuary where the ducks can get their day rest undisturbed. Of course, natural causes, such as high wind, may drive them from their day haunt, and then is the chance and opportunity of the shore-shooter, but ducks will not bear constant persecution without a sanctuary, and there are many queer little rocks and reefs round our coasts which play a much more important part than is realised in keeping the duck with us in spite of the inhospitable reception they meet with from the wildfowler. Such reefs will, it is probable, always remain sanctuaries when they occur upon open coasts, and when the coast is sheltered, ducks can spend the day at sea. But where the water is too rough, the ducks will always find some unlikely-looking reef in the pools of which they can find that peace which is an essential to the continuance of their stay in the district; but he who is wise will not, should he discover such a sanctuary, visit it too often. If he does he will defeat his own ends. Once in a fortnight is calculated to spoil the chance of a really satisfactory flight, but once every month or six weeks, that is, about three times a year, he may enjoy with a free heart the finest sport, as some think, that these islands can offer.

H. HESKETH-PRICHARD.

THE NEW BADMINTON SHOOTING GROUNDS AND SCHOOL.

A GOODLY party of sportsmen, including Lord Lonsdale and Lord Desborough, foregathered at Wembley on Monday last to open Messrs. Holland and Holland's new shooting ground, to which the above name has been given. Situated close to Wembley Park Station, about twenty minutes from Baker Street Station on the Metropolitan Railway, or about half an hour by motor *via* the Harrow and Wembley Hill roads,

it is as near and convenient of access as any ground suitable for shooting in the vicinity of London can be. The pavilion, a substantial brick and stucco building, is characteristic of the work of this old-established firm, while all the plating butts, rifle butts, tower and other incidentals of a modern shooting ground are admirably designed with regard to the convenience of guests and the firm's own testing requirements. The fitting butt, besides the usual rising and crossing birds, includes an excellent arrange-

flight, or for shooting lessons and practice when fitting is not the immediate object. In reply to a suggestion that the needs of London in the matter of shooting grounds appear to be already abundantly met by the number already in existence, Mr. Holland observed that a well appointed testing and shooting ground was essential to the modern gunmaker's art rather than an independent source of business. Doubtless a good fit could often be achieved by an experienced gunmaker without such a convenience, but perfection

could only be ensured when the use of the gun by its owner in the natural and normal manner in which he employed it at game could be observed, and the primary object of the ground was to provide the means whereby this could be done under the supervision of his own experts. These same means are, of course, available for shooting lessons and practice, and will also be utilised for that purpose.

The enterprise, which has led some seven or eight London gun-makers to add to their non-productive expenses the cost of providing and maintaining private shooting grounds, is a unique feature in London gunmaking, which doubtless contributes to the high

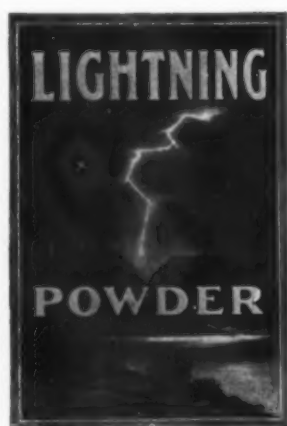
repute in which London guns are held. Though it may add unappreciably to the cost of the weapon, the gun, as Mr. Holland remarked, is the least expensive item in shooting, while its fit and quality contribute very largely to the pleasure of the sport. On this ground alone enterprise of this kind is justified, and most shooting men will be inclined to agree with Roger Ascham, the first of writers on sporting weapons, "that a good bow twice paid for is better than an ill bow once broken."

E. N.



WALKING UP PRACTICE.

ment in the shape of a vanishing bird for testing bend and cast off, the momentary appearance precluding anything in the nature of unconsciously correcting misfit in the gun by aiming. This with the plating butt and rifle range provide for the technical test of correct fitting and sighting, while a quarter of a mile of rough cover, grouse butts, partridge drive and a tower 40yds. high on the slope of an abruptly rising hill, afford means for practically testing guns at the closest possible imitations of game in



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New Smokeless Powder
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OPTICIANS,
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(See "Country Life," Oct. 4th, page 17.)

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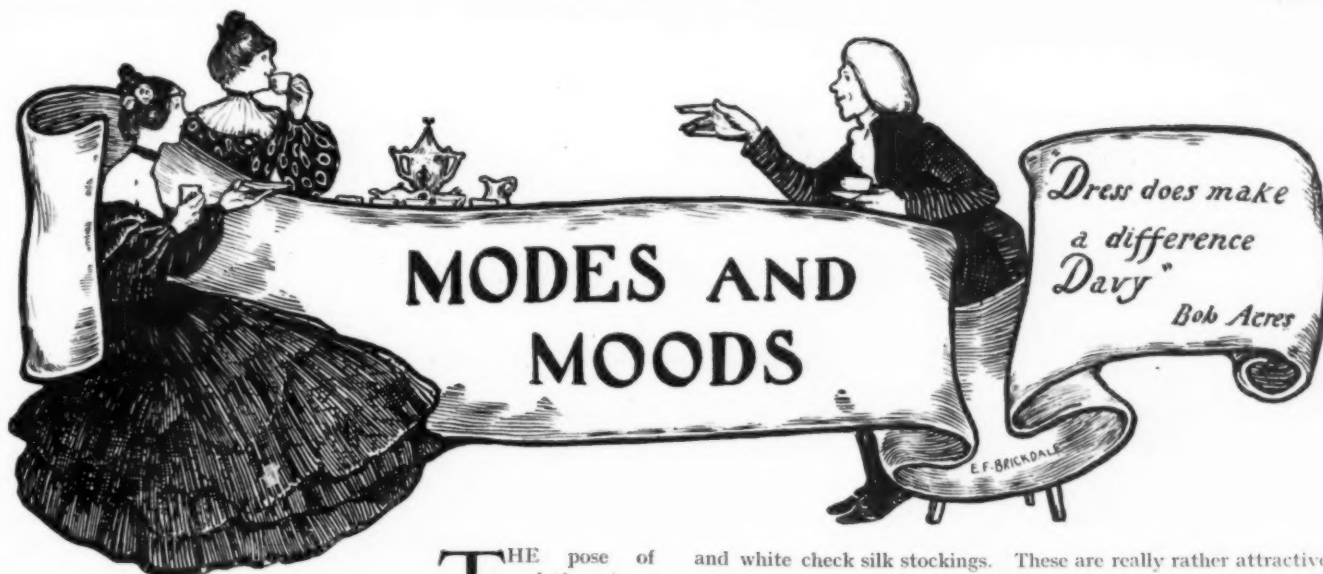
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THE pose of clothes is a subject that is being rather freely discussed just now. The immense influence of clothes upon the mind, the psychology, so to say, of dress, has interested me for many years. It makes, of course, both for good and bad according to the individual. But dress, taking it all in all, is a very great factor in the social conduct of the world. The talk at present centres a good deal around the lolling pose, engendered by the loose, floppy style of dress. And there is no doubt at all but that this exists. Fortunately, as has been pointed out, some women are possessed of minds sufficiently flexible to drop quickly one pose and take up another. There is a certain dramatic element in this, whereas, unfortunately, others when *La Mode* veers round in a coquettish mood, are left with a pose totally unfitted for the new scheme of dress. It is an interesting speculation as to what is going to happen—as will most assuredly be the case—when the present unduly slim skirt gives place once again to freedom at the hem. The mincing step, almost amounting to a little tripping run, inaugurated under the former conditions, if it is persisted in, will become a merely tiresome affectation, as also that funny trick now indulged in, of throwing one foot out at a backward angle, heel uppermost.

Feet, indeed, are almost painfully accentuated at present, thrust through short, slit-up and draped skirts, while for street use there are large bows, fancy suede tops and even coloured *souliers* are to be seen. Contrasting coloured heels, jewelled heels and the like extravagances are there for those who have the liking for such extremes and the money to expend upon them. And of a truth, both foot and leg gear represent an appreciable extravagance under latter auspices. *A propos* of the latter, the very latest craze is for black

and white check silk stockings. These are really rather attractive and by no means so bizarre as they sound.

A propos of extravagance, or, perhaps, one should rather say the adroit handling of modish schemes, I was once again most pleasurably impressed by the perfect taste displayed by Madame Charlton, 53, Manchester Street, W. The models here are all practically original and consequently exclusive, and while in perfect

accord with the latest decrees, there is such a welcome absence of strain and striving after the eccentric. Everything pertaining to the latter is eliminated from Madame Charlton's designs, and at the moment to be found in these salons is an array of dance and evening gowns that one would have need to travel very far to see surpassed. A soft little yellow satin that lingers lovingly in memory carried the most delightful touches of brown and red tulle, recalling the autumnal kissed leaves of the Virginia creeper one side of the décolletage being defined by a narrow line of beaver fur. The corsage, I should add, was of the approved fragile order, fashioned of yellow chiffon, mounted over the same shadow lace as occurs at one side of the skirt, where the satin is slit up and slightly draped. A veritable gem of colouring, again, is a creation arranged by Charlton in peacock blue ninon over green satin. This represents one of those seductively limp little gowns when held in the hand; when donned, it reveals the most adorable draperies. A charming touch is accorded the décolletage in a rather deep fold of heliotrope satin over silver gauze, the two as light as a summer morning's mist, while thrust into the folds at the waist is a great petunia rose.

Charlton's dance frocks for *débutantes* are simply delicious, just right in colouring and style to mate with the freshness of youth. An interesting departure here are gowns suitable alike for restaurants in the afternoon or the hotel dinner abroad. And it is one of these that has been selected to form the subject of the accompanying sketch. The material requisitioned is a very soft sort of silk crêpe, the skirt



SKETCHED AT MME. CHARLTON'S.

caught up in slight draperies to form a pannier effect and opening at one side of the front over a delicate lace panel. A particular feature of the model is the gracefully draped sash of old-world ribbon in an old mauve shade, the upper edge only patterned with a floral design, while the one end is pulled through and under the skirt draperies. The treatment of the bodice is likewise most arresting, with its little net and lace guimpe, that at the back resolves itself into a delicately tucked net square-shaped collar hemmed with lace, the lace again appearing in the form of a short postilion basque, as may be gathered from the small inserted back view. It goes without saying, a gown that can command such detailed pictorial expression is of no ordinary character. But then, it has already been said, the designs at Charlton's never are.

That pleasant nip in the air that has come along with such lagging footsteps this autumn has at last been felt in real earnest.

style is the essence of simplicity. At the waist the fulness is controlled by light gaugings, while a charming finishing touch is imparted by a deep berthe of lace. Then, advancing gradually up the scale, there is encountered the first of the models illustrated. This is arranged with a folded charmeuse belt and little mock loops and buttons down the skirt, and carries the dearest, softest little collar of delicate embroidered lawn, over which there falls at the top a narrow plissé net frill. And the cost is only 67s. 6d., while the range of colours is exhaustive. For four guineas there is the other pictured example, and others of a like kind. There is a marked freedom of cut about the upper part of this gown, the sleeves of which are modelled in one with a short extension set with a heavy cording. Other decorative touches are achieved with little maccarons of twisted silk cord, one side of the skirt being treated with an open fagot stitch, while at the other a short slit is arranged and just a suspicion of drapery. In front the corsage crosses softly below a guimpe of net, and there is likewise a clever, effective collar, partly embroidered lawn and partly coloured lace, together with a soft silk sash, finishing with one end embroidered in a design of acorns and leaves. If possible the choice of Zenana dressing gowns is more seductive and exhaustive than ever, these ranging in price from 49s. 6d. to 5 guineas.

Exclusively in connection with winter sports Messrs. Debenham and Freebody have just issued a remarkable brochure with coloured illustrations. For one or two seasons now this firm have been offering experienced advice on the subject of outfits. At the head of the department is an expert manager who has made a personal investigation of the whole subject, and, at the same time—a still more important matter—studied the question of cost. Hitherto the alternatives were, buying the wrong garments in England at a probably reasonable rate, and the right ones in Switzerland at a prohibitive cost. But Debenham and Freebody have changed all this by supplying absolutely the right tested clothes for each particular sport at reasonable prices.

As one learns from the brochure in question, toboggan attire, a charming example of which is shown on the first page, presents a quite different figure to one designed for skiing. Again, a ski-ing skirt is necessarily much shorter than one donned for skating and curling. These capital illustrations emphasise the vogue, too, that prevails for vivid colours. Thus a ski-ing figure is wearing a yellow and black pure cashmere blazer, black skirt of Engadine waterproof cloth and yellow knickers, puttees and a striped cap. A draughtboard check effect, introduced as facings to a coat and cap, is something of a novel feature. But as a preliminary to a visit to Wigmore Street, those who are proposing to participate in the Swiss sports, should certainly send for and peruse this exceedingly helpful booklet.

For next week we are already engaged in gathering all the very latest regarding clothes for Swiss sports. All

the world seems to be going there, and speculations are rife as to how accommodation will be found for the many who propose to flee away from the half-hearted winter here. Switzerland though, after all, with its strenuous outdoor sports, is essentially for the young and the physically strong and those blessed with fine vitality. For the frail and the middle-aged the thought of warm southern climes is infinitely more alluring, and couturières are already busy arranging outfits for the Riviera and Cairo. As always, a considerable amount of interest centres round these efforts, since they are of necessity a little in advance of the winter modes, foreshadowing rather what will be worn in the spring; therefore with these also it will behove us to deal at no distant date.

L. M. M.



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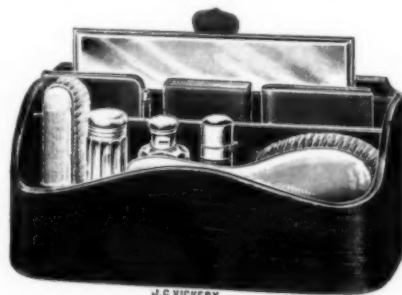
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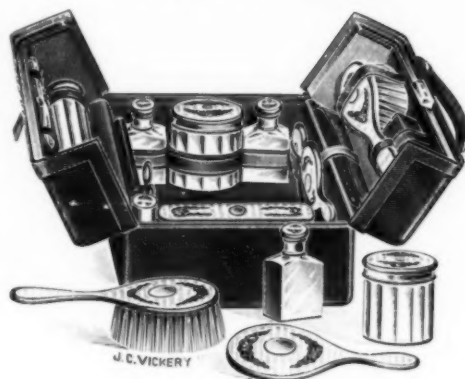
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ALTHOUGH Christmas seems a long way ahead as yet there is an undeniable feeling of present giving about the new catalogue of novelties recently issued by Mr. J. C. Vickery of 179-183, Regent Street, W. Perhaps it is because most of the beautiful things illustrated therein are of the kind which one is very glad to have, but never dreams of buying for one's self. Specially do motorists appear to have been catered for, and both our illustrations have been chosen for them. The first is a compact little lady's motor bag carried out in various colours and leathers, and completely fitted with floral enamel implements. There are several variants of this miniature case, one particularly worthy of mention being a flat shape with silver-gilt fittings, the brushes having removable handles, permitting a full sized brush to be fitted in a very small space. The second picture is of a mahogany motor companion fitted with mirror, brushes, memorandum books, etc. Luncheon cases afford plenty of scope to the present giver. An extremely useful luncheon case for two seen at Mr. Vickery's is of light-weight, solid leather, with aluminium fittings, "Thermos" flask, wine bottle and the usual boxes, plates, cutlery, etc., including two serviettes, all packed into a space of 13in. by 11½in. by 5in. Where space has

to be considered the new foot-rest luncheon case, which may be had in various sizes, will be appreciated. It is quite dust-proof and most comfortable in use, and, with its corrugated rubber top and brass mountings and lock, presents a very smart appearance. For ordinary purposes there is a widely varied selection of dressing bags and cases, jewel and carriage bags,



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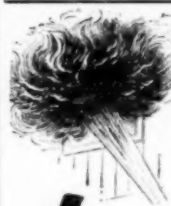
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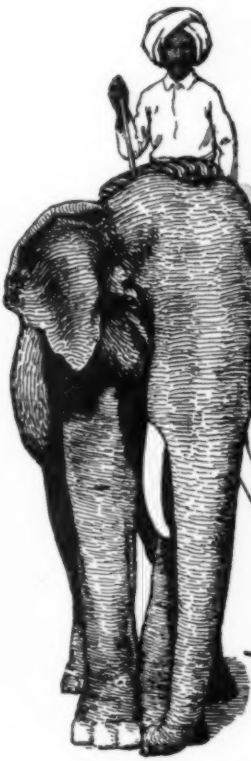
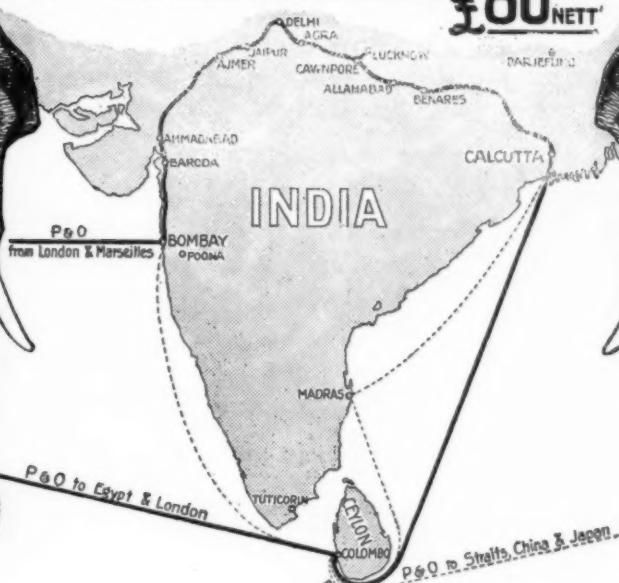
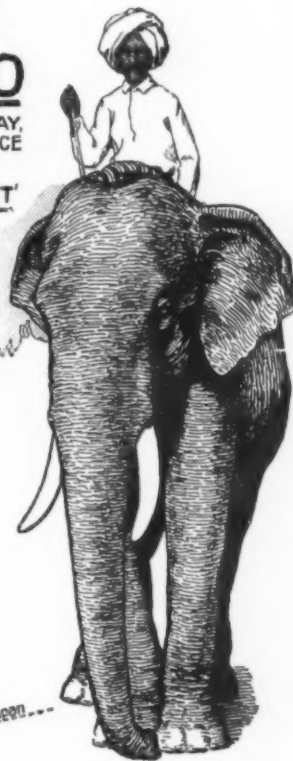
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etc., and some of the new handbags, purses, etc., in striped silk with silver-gilt rims are very charming. This material has also been pressed into use for cigarette and bank note cases, when it is most effective. There are a number of new vanity and matinée bags, chiefly of the armlet persuasion, in crushed morocco, velvet calf, corded silk, etc., with watches inserted or the owner's monogram in marquise or metal; and an old favourite, the waist-bag, appears in a new guise of black velvet, with pierced and chased silver mounts. A dainty sacque of gold beadwork panelled with coloured beads, is rather a novelty for the theatre, and to put in it is another, in the shape of a gold lorgnette, with a powder-puff and mirror case in the handle. In table devices, such as plate-warmers, *hors d'œuvre* stands, breakfast dishes, etc., there are several new patterns; while the smokers' requirements provide endless opportunities for the inventor, of which an unspillable ash-bowl is a very sensible example.

Gabardine. IN our last issue we inadvertently described a new design of overcoat, made by Messrs. Doré and Sons of Conduit Street, as being available in Gabardine, which is not the case. Gabardine is Burberry's Trade Mark, and they do not supply this famous weatherproof material in the piece to their agents.

A New Wrap Coat. THOSE who have experienced the comfort and weather-proof qualities of the famous Aquascutum coats will be interested in the latest development of that popular garment as illustrated on this page. This new wrap coat, made in registered Eiderscutum, is delightfully cosy and warm, and yet extremely light in weight, a combination much to be desired but rarely found in overcoats. It may be slipped over any costume without crushing it, and on this account will be found a

most useful garment for travel, though equally well adapted to general country wear. In shape it is double-breasted,



THE BROCKVILLE COAT.

buttoning on the left side with three large buffalo horn buttons, and has Raglan

shoulders and roomy sleeves. It can also be made in new blanket cloths and various handsome tweeds, patterns of which may be obtained from the makers, Aquascutum, Limited, 100, Regent Street, W.

The Pearl Maker.

IT is remarkable to note how, amid the changes in fashion and convention which the ages have brought, the pearl has always been considered the gem *par excellence*, and never has it been more popular than at the present time. One result of the growing demand has been a marked increase in pearl thefts, for the supply of gems of real quality is limited, a condition of things which always makes for dishonesty. Two of the most daring have been the stealing of the Queen of Siam's pearl rope and the sensational robbery of the £150,000 string in Paris; but there are constantly others which escape public notice because the pearls are the property of private owners, and, although valuable, are neither so costly nor so historic as those we have mentioned. The only way to safeguard against loss is to have replicas made to wear on minor occasions, and so generally is this recognised that the copying of pearls has become a highly technical profession, a wonderfully clever exponent of which is Mr. H. Topas of 38, Old Bond Street, W. Mr. Topas is an expert to whom some of the world's most valuable collections have been entrusted for duplicating, and he understands and appreciates the subtle qualities of the individual pearls as few people can. Every varying tint, each microscopic flaw, is faithfully reproduced in a way that absolutely defies detection by any but the most experienced expert. And some idea of the saving in risk effected by wearing these duplicate gems may be gained from the fact that a £100 necklet may be duplicated for a guinea, while a £5,000 one is represented by 20 guineas' worth of imitation.

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SOME TOWN HOUSES OLD AND NEW.

LANSDOWNE HOUSE, BERKELEY SQUARE, W.

A RESIDENCE OF THE MARQUESS OF LANSDOWNE, K.G.

TO lovers of architecture and of London there are few subjects of greater regret than the absence of those palaces of the nobility which are to be seen so conspicuously in other great capitals. The intelligent visitor from abroad might well ask where the leaders of the nation house themselves, and where the famous English domestic architecture is to be found in London. Lansdowne House is one of the exceptions that could be pointed out with pride, though even that is singularly modest and retiring in its position. Screened by Devonshire House from Piccadilly, it is set at angle to Berkeley Square, without any definite lay-out or architectural setting towards that fine open space. The stately elevation of Portland stone is a noble instance of Robert Adam's power of conferring interest on a dignified façade that in no way depends on sculpture or carving for its effect. The front is singularly little altered, only on the ground



THE END FEATURE OF THE COURTYARD.

floor have the windows lost their sash-bars. Internally the house is well described in a few lines taken from Lady Shelburne's diary:

Saturday, August 20th, 1768: I had the pleasure of coming to Shelburne House, from which I continue this diary. My Lord was just going to council as I arrived with Lord Granby; we had some conversation on the steps, and I had full time to walk over and examine the house. It is very noble, and I am much pleased with it, though perhaps few people would have come to live in it in so unfinished a state.

Lord Shelburne had been for some time in search of a suitable site for a town house. C. J. Fox wrote to him June 29th, 1761: "I see that you have ordered Mr. Adam to look out for a space to build an hotel upon." Lord Bute had anticipated him in buying this particular plot which Fox indicated in the above letter.

Designed for Lord Bute in 1765, the house was in an unfinished state, as Lady Shelburne records, at the time of its purchase from Lord Bute. In 1771 William Fitzmaurice,



THE FACADE OF LANSDOWNE HOUSE.

second Earl of Shelburne and first Marquess of Lansdowne (created 1784), visited Italy on the death of Lady Shelburne. He there obtained the help of a Scotch painter named Gavin Hamilton, a resident in Rome, in the formation of a collection of sculpture and antiques. This conjunction of interest was destined to influence the completion of the house. Robert Adam devotes seven plates, dated 1765-68, to this house in his *Works*, and a comparison of his drawings reveals how little subsequent changes the house has undergone, except in regard to the gallery and the rotunda room. In addition to these plates, complete drawings for the rooms, some of them coloured, exist in the Soane Museum. The evidence of these drawings is not conclusive as regards the house having been in the first place designed for Lord Bute. The drawings definitely inscribed for the Marquess of Bute relate to a scheme evidently not the same as the present house and one which was not carried out. Setting out to view, we enter the "porter's hall," a good example of Doric simplicity. The centaurs in



THE ENTRANCE HALL.

the metopes of the entablature, which Adam tells us were put in as the family crest, no longer exist. Yet they are found at Bowood in the Doric entablature of Adam's additions. The panels under the colonnade shown to be decorated are now plain, while the spandrel of the centre doorway is to-day a glazed fanlight. The mantelpiece is as illustrated, but set over it is a large sculptured relief framed up with some arabesque decoration. From this hall the anteroom is entered on the

left hand. The walls are panelled with arabesque stuccoes of the greatest delicacy of execution and of great refinement of design. There are painted panels by Cipriani of classical subjects. In the semi-circle are two niches with the most exquisite decorations in the half-domes. The ceiling, in the same style, has a large octagon as the centre of its set-out. In the adjoining room, the "eating-room," the same style of decoration is carried on, but the main emphasis is thrown on the ceiling, and the walls are broken only by large niches for statues with arabesque panels over them.



THE DRAWING-ROOM CEILING.

These serve as a link with the richness of the ceiling. Adam gives a detail of the columns which form a sideboard recess and a serving passage at the far end of the room. He remarks the capital is "antique," but that the frieze is new. Curiously enough, as executed the leaves, enclosed in ribbon loop, are reversed and have their points upwards. The cornice also is less enriched than the drawing, to its advantage, by the omission of two lines of leafage. The colouring of this room is light green, and white in the walls and a faded pink and white in the ceiling. In all the rooms the mahogany doors are of great beauty, wide mouldings with flutings emphasising the inner panels. All have beautifully chased mountings and furniture.

A door from the columned recess leads to the "first drawing-room," which is a singularly attractive apartment, and a highly finished example of the style. The ceiling is fully painted with subject panels, and arabesque decorative motives in colour fill in the plain spaces between the delicate lines of the relief ornamentation. This is set out to form a central compartment, very freely related to the pilaster bays below. The arched alcove recess, eleven feet by three feet, between the coupled but wide-spaced pilasters, is the main feature of the room. Its arched soffit is most delicately ornamented, and the fan in the spandrel is so subtly modulated that it seems at first as if its relief arose solely from the alternate bandings of its colour decoration. The whole room is highly reminiscent of Bramante and Raphael and the golden epoch of Italian stuccoists of the great age. Adam had made drawings of this and the old Roman work, on which it was based, while he was in Italy, and the Royal Institute of British Architects' library contains a volume of his studies. The walls are covered with yellow silk, and the pilasters and ceiling are in a dark cream with strongly coloured paintings. The ornaments are of composition and there is gilded relief, but it is not over-

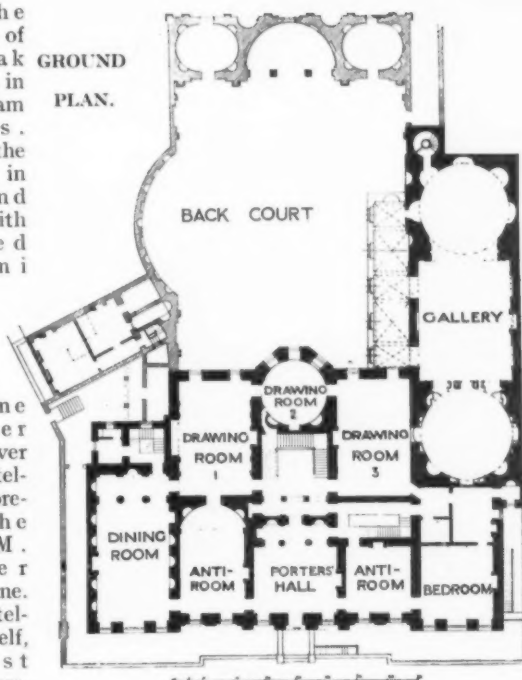
done. The floors are of wide oak boards, as in other Adam houses. Some of the furniture, in brown and gold with painted amorini in oval medallions, is of great interest.

The fine Hoppner picture over the mantelpiece represents the Hon. M. Mercer Elphinstone. The mantelpiece itself, of most delicate execution in white statuary marble, is a fine specimen of Adam design.

The centre of the house is occupied by the staircase, twenty-one feet by twenty-seven feet, which is a well-planned piece of work, but has undergone some subsequent changes.

The metal-work is of a different character, and some of the wall panels, originally plain, have been filled in with copies of Adam decoration. There are several detail drawings for this staircase in the Soane Museum: only the ceiling is dated 1766. There are some panels at the top filled with chiaroscuro paintings, which may be original. Behind this staircase, in the centre of the back elevation, is a most interesting rotunda, or circular room, about twenty-one feet in diameter, with a very flat dome, on which is painted a chiaroscuro frieze of figures. In Adam's plan the room is an oblong, with a half-octagon bay making it about square. The circle has been struck within these walls with three niches, two of which fill in the angles. The entrance to the room is a winding passage at the back of one of these niches, ending in a concealed door. References to this room occur in Gavin Hamilton's correspondence. From its windows the

GROUND
PLAN.



LANSDOWNE HOUSE: THE GALLERY AS FINISHED BY GEORGE DANCE, R.A.

outlook is over a court laid out by Adam on classical lines, with a great segmental exedra on the left and a deep niche, with columned screen and flanking oval rooms on either side, as the termination of the vista. This scheme was only partly realised, and has suffered from the addition of a subsequent corridor annexed to the great gallery. Extremely useful inside as an approach, it is ill-related to the courtyard scheme.

The Rotunda Room is described as the second drawing-room, and the third is the pair to the first, already described. It is now the library, and is lined with books. The decoration here is more French than Adam in feeling. From this room the new corridor annexe gives access to the great gallery, a most imposing and notable room. It is laid out on Roman lines, as of the days of Hadrian or Severus. The central oblong terminates in two great exedras, exceeding the semi-circle on plan. The half-dome over is intersected to form segmental lunettes, which, rising above the great vault of the central oblong, pour down a flood of light at both ends of the gallery. Each exedra has five niches, where the famous sculptures are displayed. The history of this gallery is worth a little patient examination. In the first place, Adam's plan shows the gallery in three distinct divisions—two rotundas of thirty feet diameter and a central oblong thirty feet by thirty-eight feet. These three divisions are united by columned openings of half the present width. There is the vista, but it is a totally different architectural conception. From work at Kedleston one can form an idea of the original design. It appears that the carcass of this wing, at any rate, was erected presumably on this original plan, as it was to have been a music-room. Later on new ideas might very well arise, particularly after his Lordship's visit to Italy in 1771 and his engagement of Hamilton, referred to before. A scheme was drawn up by Hamilton for the formation of a sculpture gallery at Lansdowne House, and it was agreed that the plans should be made by the architect Panini.

As regards the design of the gallery, it is clear that Panini's plans were not executed. The drawing by him in the Soane Museum discovered and now identified is, of course, only one of a set, and there is no plan. It is evident, however, that it refers to a room only two-thirds of the present

in length. This drawing seems to have survived because it must have been lent to George Dance, R.A., of whom Soane was a pupil. The Dance drawings relating to the gallery of Lansdowne House seem most clearly to imply that he was the author of the design as we see it now. He gives a minute survey of the brick walls inside the final finish, which could hardly have been made unless it was a carcass. Either, therefore, Adam never completed the interior, or he finished it as a library on the lines of a set of detail drawings now in the museum. The idea of the lighting by the great lunettes seems distinctly due to Dance, and the great gallery is worthy of the designer of the finest of all prisons, the Newgate that London has now lost. The interior is not characteristically Adam, that is to say, it has a Roman character, such as James Wyatt, for instance, might have given to it. The discovery of Dance's connection with the work explains the much stronger character of the design, which gives, better perhaps than any other in London, an idea of a Roman Imperial hall.

The house at the back is of plain stock brick, five floors in all, there being a basement of two stories below the principal floor. The under-basements appear to be brick-vaulted. The house is very well planned, though there are considerable difficulties in the lighting of a plan of this depth, about eighty-two feet, before internal light areas were in general use.

ARTHUR T. BOLTON

NO. 20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE.

A RESIDENCE OF THE EARL OF STRATHMORE.

IT is evidence of the versatility of Robert Adam that he could turn from the great mansion of Lord Shelburne, with its noble frontage of one hundred and thirty-five feet, to design, in 1772, this charming specimen of a London house of the usual forty-five feet frontage of those days. The scale of this delightful house is so perfectly maintained, and its scheme of decorations is so complete, that it may safely challenge comparison with any other town house ever built. If this seems high praise we can only invite our readers to study the fine series of illustrations given here, and to consider the effect of the skilful planning which is the backbone of the architectural scheme. The façade of the house is doubtless well known to all lovers of London architecture. It may not have been to the satisfaction of the pedantic Gwilt, who scourges Adam so caustically in his *Encyclopædia of Architecture*. "It



20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE: STAIRCASE AT FIRST FLOOR LANDING.



ELEVATION, 20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE.

Iron porch framework is a later addition.



THE TOP OF THE STAIR.

can scarcely be believed, the ornaments of Diocletian's Palace at Spalatro should have loaded our dwellings, contemporaneously with the use among the more refined few of the exquisite exemplars of Greece and even Rome in its better days. Yet such is the fact; the depraved compositions of Adam were not only tolerated but had their admirers. It is not to be supposed that the works of a man who was content to draw his supplies from so vitiated a source will require lengthened notice." Accordingly he summarised his works as follows: "Lord Lansdowne's house well planned but ill-designed, a meagre affair." "The disgraceful gateway at Sion," and concludes, "None however would now do credit to a mere tyro in the art." James Stuart, on the other hand, is the good boy of the school. "The chasteness and purity,

which Stuart and Revett had with some success endeavoured to introduce into the buildings of England, and in which their zeal had enlisted many artists, had to contend against the opposite and vicious taste of Robert Adam, a fashionable architect, whose eye had been ruined by the corruption of the worst period of Roman art." Unfortunately for Gwilt, few will be found to prefer Stuart's masterpiece, as he terms it, at No. 15 in the same square, on the same side, and not many doors away, nor will his criticisms dethrone Adam as an originator and designer who could so effectively "Faire école," as the French saying runs. For quiet effectiveness it is difficult to match this reticent and reasonable architectural and domestic façade. Adam had grasped the essentials of street architecture in a way which had not dawned upon either Stuart or Gwilt.

Entering beneath the beautiful lead fan filling the semi-circular arched doorway, a "Porter's hall," fifteen feet by nineteen feet, excites our interest by the simple and effective richness of its decoration. It is a prologue to the grand design

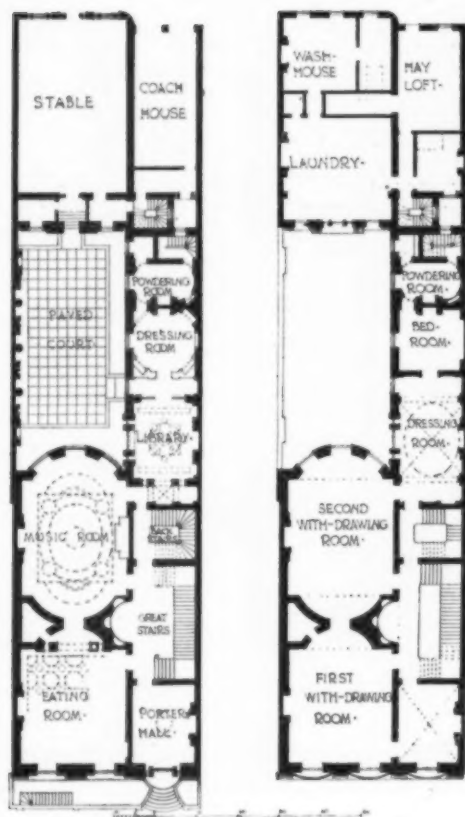


20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE: THE FOOT OF THE STAIR.



IN THE ENTRANCE HALL.

of the staircase hall, which rises the full height of the house. Adam was much too good an architect to spoil his effect by carrying the main stairs beyond the first floor. It is well worth the minor sacrifice of approaching the bedrooms by the secondary staircase to eliminate the ugly, well-like effect produced by further ascents in the main stairway. Thanks to this the coved ceiling of the staircase hall is fully seen, and the fine oval lantern light in the central flat throws a flood of illumination on the arcaded and pilastered walls. A copy of Raphael's "Transfiguration" effectively fills in the chief arcaded panel at the first-floor level. Width of space and breadth of effect are obtained on the ground and first floor by a semi-circular recess, which widens the staircase hall at the vital point, and this feature is so well planned in connection with apsidal features in the front and back room, that no real sacrifice of space is involved. The front room—the "eating-room"—twenty-six feet by twenty-eight feet, has a flat ceiling set out with octagonal, shallow panelling. The semi-circular recess has two columns and pilasters, whose caps have rams' heads as volutes.



PLANS OF 20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE.

door casings and fireplace, but also the dado rail reproduces the form. The walls are green, with the columns and mouldings

For some reason this animal is made the motive of the decoration; not only the

in white, with a white marble mantel-piece. The furniture of the room is of great interest. There are four original torchères and a large console table between the two windows, supporting a mirror of elaborately gilded framework. The composition decoration of the walls is on a wood ground.

The back room, twenty-six feet by forty feet, is apsidally terminated at both ends. It has a flat ceiling, of very delicate and elaborate ornamentation. The basis of the design is five painted medallions linked up by circles and bands of the flattest



THE FIRST WITHDRAWING ROOM.



20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE: THE SECOND WITHDRAWING ROOM.

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The eight Panels are all 9 ft. 7 in. high and 14 ft. 6½ in., 8 ft. 2½ in., 6 ft. 4½ in., 4 ft. 9½ in., 3 ft. 6½ in., 2 ft. 8 in., and two 2 ft. 2½ in. wide. There are also four overdoor panels 3 ft. 9 in. by 4 ft. 6 in. wide, and one overmantel, 5 ft. 9 in. by 4 ft. 2 in. wide.

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relief, and enclosed in a square. This is extended to the shape of the room by two beautiful fans. Adam calls it the music-room, and he gives the detailed design of an organ, which is no longer in the house, if it was ever made. He shows it in the place now occupied by the fine sideboard of table form, this being now the dining-room. It is flanked by two vases on pedestals of the type to be seen at Kedleston. The walls of this room are fully set out with panels of delicate ornamentation.

From this room the internal courtyard, twenty-six feet by fifty-two feet, is seen in a true architectural vista. The end pavilion, described as the laundry, is well designed. It is in two storeys, a rusticated basement below an order of Adam Corinthian framing a large Venetian window with Ionic columns.



20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE: DRESSING-ROOM ON FIRST FLOOR.

The side bays are shown with square niches with statues, but these have been replaced by windows. The flanking wall on the left is also illustrated by Adam as an elaborate composition of wide-spaced coupled Ionic columns carrying three arches, whose spandrels are filled in with decorative candelabra united by swags. The terminal breaks are ornamented with square niches and medallions, and the whole design is bound together by a deep-fluted capping moulding. Excepting for the statues and vases it all exists and lends great interest to what could be otherwise a very dull wall. It is perhaps open to criticism on the ground of deficient scale.

The library leading into the dressing-room has been slightly altered, as is indicated on the plan, to gain more space for what is now a bedroom, and



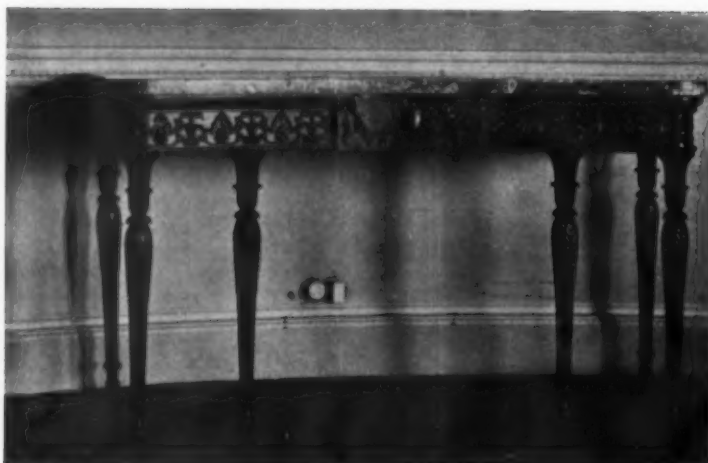
THE MORNING ROOM (FORMERLY "EATING ROOM").



SIDEBOARD AND VASES IN DINING ROOM.



IN THE DRAWING ROOM.



IN THE DINING ROOM.



20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE: IN DRAWING ROOM.

also in order to form a service passage to the dining-room. As designed it was an effective room, with two end colonnades, barrel and cross-vaulted, with a flat-ceiled central compartment. There is a large Venetian window to the paved court. Five medallions painted in chiaroscuro, and united by a graceful setting of arabesques decorate the ceiling. The bedroom beyond has a coved ceiling, and the oval powdering room is now a bathroom. Ascending to the first floor the magnificent balustrading of the stairs, a very delicate metal design, deservedly attracts attention.

The front room, or first withdrawing-room, twenty-six feet by twenty-eight feet, has a semi-circle recess, as in the room below, with a flat soffit. The ceiling is set out in a great oval enclosing other oval lines varied with swags and filled in with cameo panels having a blue ground. There are two fine console tables with rams' heads finish to the legs, which are united by swags below a triglyph frieze under the Scagliola tops. The ante-chamber over the hall below occupies the remaining bay of the front. This is cross-vaulted, and most beautifully ornamented with decorative lines that cross and emphasise while contrasting the curvature of the groins. The spandrels of the wall are cleverly panelled, the chimney breast being carried up to the soffit of the vault, making an effective break.

The back room over the present dining-room is called the second withdrawing-room. This is the *capo da opera* of the house, and perhaps one of the finest and most complete of Adam interiors. The two apsidal ends are terminated by semi-domes of exquisite and most original decoration. Above these rises the great segmental barrel ceiling, which is a masterpiece of stucco work and decorative painting. The soffit of the vault is divided by two wide and extremely flat bands into three bays. The central feature of each is an oval, supported by flat lines enclosing oblong panels filled in with paintings. Below these are lunette-shaped panels on either side. The wide bands have as a base beautiful relief vases in black and gold, like Wedgwoods. There is a fine console table with sphinxes. The walls are now hung with red damask silk. There are some interesting triangular candelabra made of wood and gilded; these were doubtless lamp holders.

In the back wing, approached from this room, is what Adam calls Lady Wynne's dressing-room, fifteen feet by thirty feet. This is a beautiful vaulted room, the centre cross-vaulted with wide end soffits. The room has been shortened in order to enlarge the bedroom which follows. This is a domed apartment, of a most interesting character. It is very simple after the preceding magnificence, but



TORCHERE AT 20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE.

absolutely appropriate. The delicate ornamentation of the dome consists of reversed swags at the base and a central circle or eye. The pendentives have amorini in circles, with vertical fluting lines from the angles of the springing. There is a cornice with a delicate frieze. Beyond is an oval powder closet with a flat ceiling, which is now a bathroom.

In the dressing-room the mantel-piece, of white marble, has enamel paintings on black slate over the columns and in the central panel of the frieze. The end walls are arcaded with three arches in woodwork. Ascending to the second floor by the secondary staircase a passage with openings, cut through the main staircase wall, affords a fine *coup d'œil* of the whole staircase, and allows the interesting decoration of the coved ceiling to be well studied. The bedrooms on this floor, while quite simple, are good and liveable rooms, and it is obvious that the whole house is a model of a town house, which still, after a century and a half, is in permanent occupation.

A. T. B.

APSLEY HOUSE, HYDE PARK.

A RESIDENCE OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

THIS famous house, so closely associated with the Iron Duke, is a subject adequately dealt. It is only to our immediate purpose to describe what remains of Adam's work after the extensive additions and alterations that it underwent at the hands of the two Wyatts, sons of the more famous, and even notorious, James Wyatt. Originally a red brick house, it was built by Adam for Henry Lord Apsley, afterwards Lord Bathurst, who was Chancellor 1771-1778, at the time of its building. His son sold it to the Marquess of Wellesley in 1810, and by a further sale it came to his younger brother, the Duke of Wellington, in 1820. In 1828 it was enlarged and reconstructed inside, the exterior being also cased in Bath stone by him. The expense proved to be three times that of the Wyatts' too sanguine estimate, whereby the Duke was led to class architects with the military contractors of whom he had so much experience in Spain. There is a story of one of these gentry, who remonstrated with the Duke to the effect that Beresford had threatened to hang him. "Did he say that?" said the Duke; "then I advise you to be careful, because he is a man of his word." To this casing of stone is due the great thickness of the walls of the house. There are two original rooms remaining, known as the Portico Room and the Piccadilly Drawing-room. The latter is described on the Adam plan as the first drawing-room, and the size given is thirty-six feet by eighteen feet; and the former room is the second drawing-room, thirty-five feet by twenty feet. The disposition is similar to that at Lord Derby's house in Stratford Place, except that the larger room is more oblong than square. The original disposition of the staircases is shown on the plan which represents the original scheme of the house. The ground floor consisted of a hall, a waiting-room on the left and a chair-room for the sedan of the period, and a drawing-room on the right with a library behind it. At the back of the

stairs was the dining-room, with an octagonal dressing-room in an annexe beyond.

The Piccadilly Drawing-room has an apsidal end whose principal feature is the fireplace with a white marble mantel. A note on Adam's plan gives £300 as the price allowed for it. The room has a barrel-vaulted ceiling, with characteristic decorations in very low relief. The spandrel end of the vault is filled in with a graceful fan decoration. It is extremely probable that there were two columns carrying the cornice and frieze across the apse, and that the decoration of the latter has been altered since Adam's day.

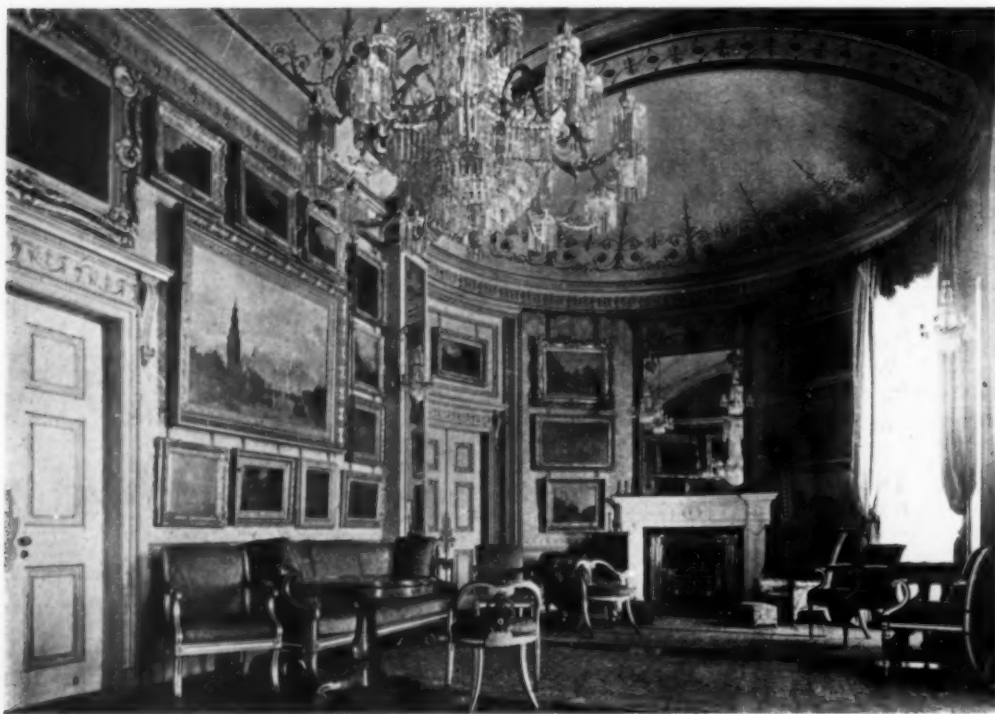
The Portico Room has a flat ceiling, set out as a square with two oblongs. In a circle within the square is a delightful chain of boys riding on sea-horses, all the subjects being varied. The frieze of the room has goats in pairs, while stags grouped with vases appear in the overdoors. Beside the original frieze design for these by Adam, there is an accurate detail drawing in the Soane Museum of this ceiling which is fully coloured. There are two shades of green employed, with pink in two tones of colour as relief for the backgrounds. The medallions, seven in number, are shown filled in with paintings. The drawing is dated 1775. The four oblong panels below the sphinxes have groups of standing amorini. There are similarly coloured ceiling drawings for the other rooms on this floor which no longer exist. All this plaster-work



APSLEY HOUSE: THE SECOND DRAWING-ROOM, NOW "PORTICO ROOM."

is very delicately executed, and is now gilded on white, or cream, grounds.

To enter the famous Waterloo Room is to realise how, in the generation that had elapsed since Adam's death, the art of internal decoration had fallen away. It is easy to understand that the great Napoleonic wars had had their effect on the domestic arts, and how it became the task of the new generation to try and raise once more the level of taste in England



APSLEY HOUSE: THE PICCADILLY DRAWING ROOM.

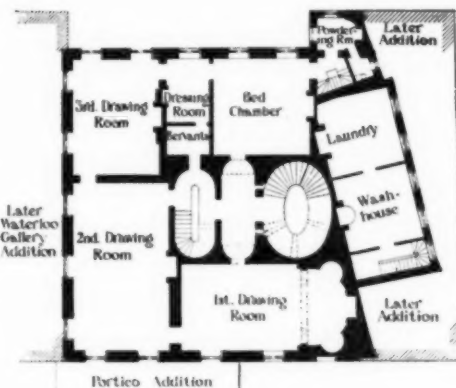
Architects like Decimus Burton, Cockerell and Barry, by their prolonged studies in classic lands, were destined to infuse new life into a decayed tradition.

A. T. B.

MODERN TOWN HOUSES

THE designing of town houses involves a set of problems altogether different from those which confront the architect of country houses. The limitations are generally severe. In most cases the frontage to the street is narrow, and the designing of the elevation is, or should be, conditioned by the adjoining fronts. If we had some beneficent dictation in aesthetic matters—such as that wielded by an ideal Minister of the Fine Arts, or, with a still greater stretch of the imagination, by a local authority informed with artistic enthusiasms—floor lines, cornice lines, and even, perhaps, the modelling of a front, would be constrained within the bands of a reasonable uniformity. As things are, however, everyone is free to strike a new note in a new building except in those rare cases where a ground landlord uses his powers to influence the design of a house in the right direction. It is unfortunate that his control is usually limited to ensuring that the building shall cost as large a sum of money as the leaseholder can be induced to expend. One modern case of a better state of things is, however, now to be seen in Pall Mall. Adjoining the Royal Automobile Club on its west side stands a block of offices, now being completed. Although two storeys have been provided in the height afforded by the ground storey only of the club, and three storeys in the space occupied by the two upper storeys of the club, the lines of the first floor cornice and the main cornice at the top have been maintained in the two buildings. Also the rustications on the ground floor and the balustrade above the main cornice are reproduced in the new building. Despite the fact that the designs of the two buildings are quite different—there is a great order on the club front, while the new building is innocent of columns—the

run mad. Meanwhile, as far as London is concerned, the chief door of hope now open is through the restraint due to that return to eighteenth century ideals which is becoming manifest in town house design. Gothic and Tudor fancies are going out of fashion, and we are



From Adam Plan in the Soane Collection

PLAN: FIRST FLOOR, APSLEY HOUSE.



KENT HOUSE, KNIGHTSBRIDGE: THE MUSIC-ROOM.

maintenance of important lines in both achieves a general unity which is of great value to the street front as a whole. There is, of course, nothing new in the application of such a reasonable arrangement between neighbouring owners for their mutual benefit and for the good of street architecture. After the Great Fire of London an ordinance was promulgated laying down rules for the "lining-up" of cornices and even for the technique of the brickwork used for window dressings and the like. It does not sound unreasonable to suggest that what was wise in the reign of Charles II. would be no less valuable in the time of George V. It is safe to say, nevertheless, that much water will run under London Bridge before ground landlords and building owners will see that it is in their own interests, as well as in the interest of architectural decency, that some check shall be put on the present state of individualism

returning to a demure and balanced idea in the treatment of elevations. It may be appropriate to sound a note of warning here. Restraint in design is only too apt to slide into timidity and dreariness, and unless a quiet and symmetrical front is made to maintain a definite vitality by sheer effort of art and mind, its repose will have been secured at too heavy a price. By way of example we may turn to the town houses in Westminster, which are illustrated on the next page. They are saved from dullness by a rightness of proportion which has no support from any other qualities except pleasing colour and texture. In less skilful hands, the idea which gives them their attractive character might easily miscarry, and in that case they would have merely renewed the spirit of Gower Street. The altar of restraint is ill-built if it is founded upon the grave of romance and invention, and, in such a case, stands out as no more than a monument to the spirit of middle age.

LAWRENCE WEAVER.

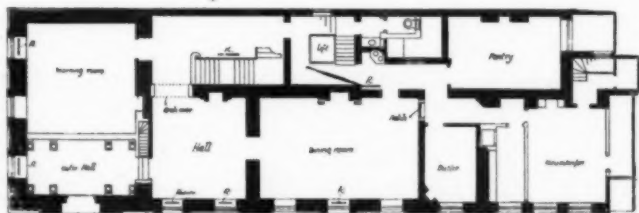
KENT HOUSE, KNIGHTSBRIDGE.

THE exterior of Kent House is negligible, but the interior demands our attention. Kent House was built at a time when the designing of town houses was little understood, and words need not be wasted on its outside. The interior was, however, wholly remodelled a



THE VESTIBULE.

few years ago for Mr. Saxton Noble, and is an interesting example of the work of Mr. Reginald Blomfield, A.R.A. The writer of many valuable works on the history of Renaissance Architecture and of no less stimulating critical essays on his art, Mr. Blomfield is now by virtue of his presidency of the Royal Institute of British Architects the titular head and leader of the profession. His work at Kent House shows his devotion to the principles of Neo-classic, of which he has written with so much force and distinction. The accompanying pictures



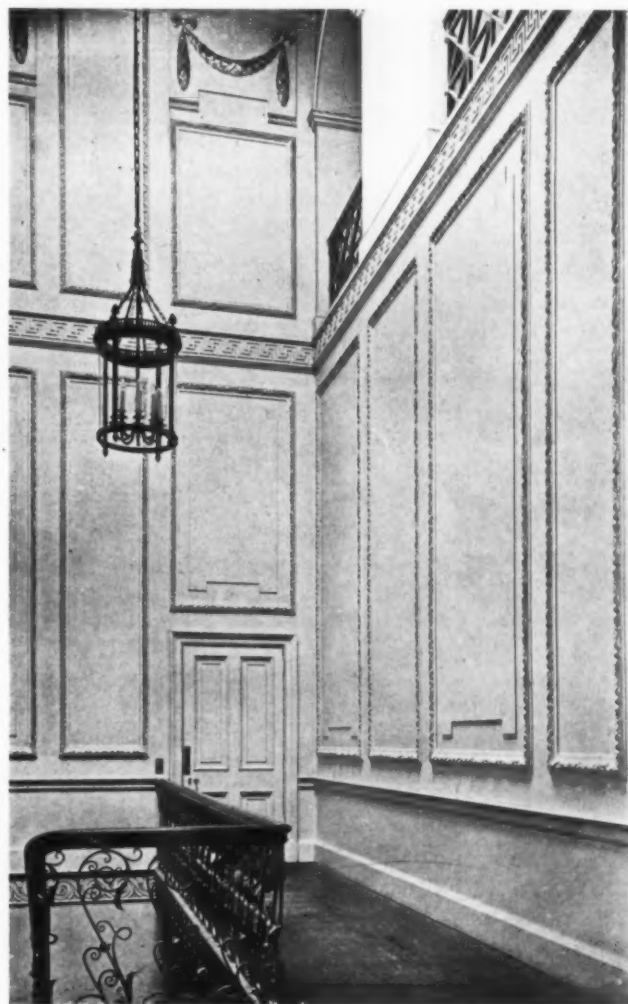
Ground Floor Plan.

GROUND FLOOR PLAN.



SECOND FLOOR CORRIDOR AND STAIR WELL.

show no departures from the employment of the ordinary elements of classical design. Mr. Blomfield once said in an



KENT HOUSE: FIRST FLOOR LANDING.



36, SMITH SQUARE, WESTMINSTER.

address to students (reprinted with others in *The Mistress Art*):

"The forms of architecture are, at this period of the world's history, very old, in much the same sense in which

level enriched by gilt panels of open ironwork, is a very dignified piece of design. It is surmounted by an oval glazed lantern, which, unfortunately, the height and narrowness of the well did not allow the camera to encompass without unpleasant distortion.

L. W.

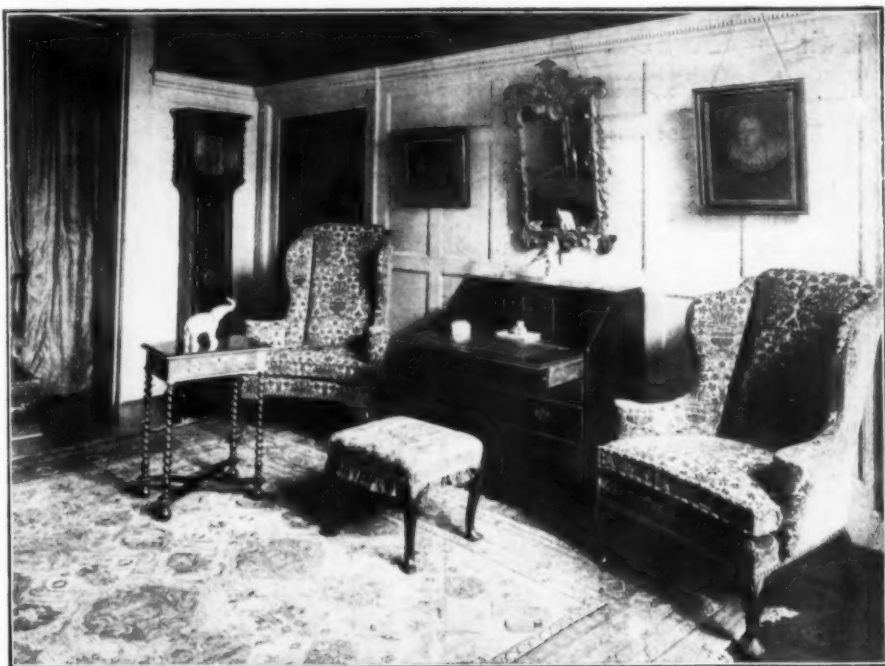


8, LITTLE COLLEGE STREET AND THE CORNER HOUSE, COWLEY STREET.

the words of a language may be said to be very old. Nobody has yet asserted that the possibilities of the English language, for example, are exhausted, and it is so with architecture. Your invention and originality will best be shown in the use you make of these accepted forms." The design of the music-room may be considered in the light of these words. The deep beam which divides the two parts of the room is an unusual feature which arose out of structural necessities. Its depth might have been masked in some fashion, say, by a big cove above a cornice set low down. It was, instead, left simply as the entablature of an open screen of columns. Any alternative solution of the question would have lessened the value of the room for chamber music, because it would have given the effect of two rooms instead of one. Mr. Blomfield was bold enough, therefore, to face the facts and to let the beam tell its own story, with the addition of the same decoration of *boukrania* and swags which is used on the frieze. The staircase, with its arched openings at the second floor

SOME HOUSES IN WESTMINSTER

THE two illustrations on this page show 36, Smith Square, the residence of the Home Secretary and the two houses forming one composition between Little College Street and Cowley Street, built for the Hon. Francis McLaren, M.P., and the Hon. Lady Norman. They are examples of Mr. Lutyens' simplest work in a straightforward Georgian manner, and are built in blueish brick with some admixture of red and with an economical employment of stone for the cornices and door and window jambs on the ground floors. The general treatment is the most practical for London, as there are no delicate carvings to get blurred and choked with soot. Although the Little College Street block is six storeys in height, the provision of the two top floors as practicable and well-lit attics prevents an appearance of undue height and gives a roof of interesting outline.



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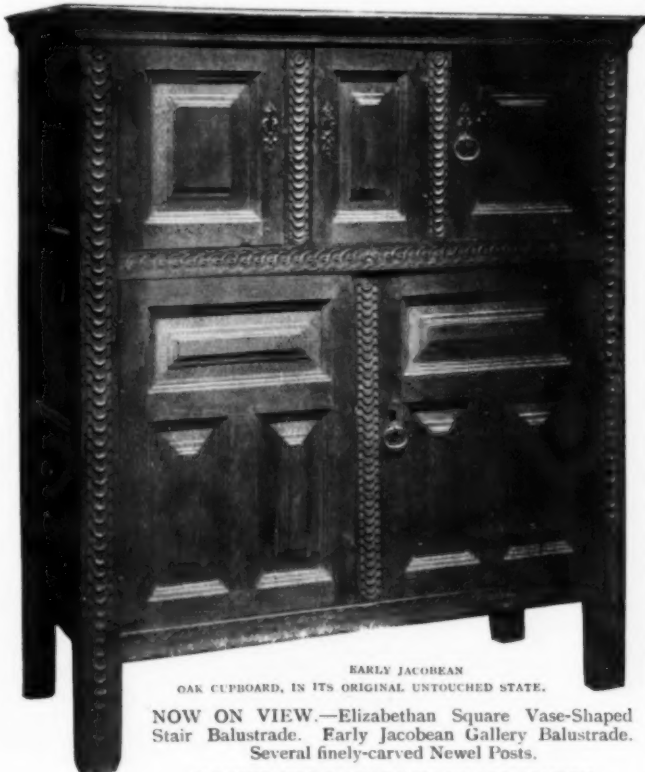
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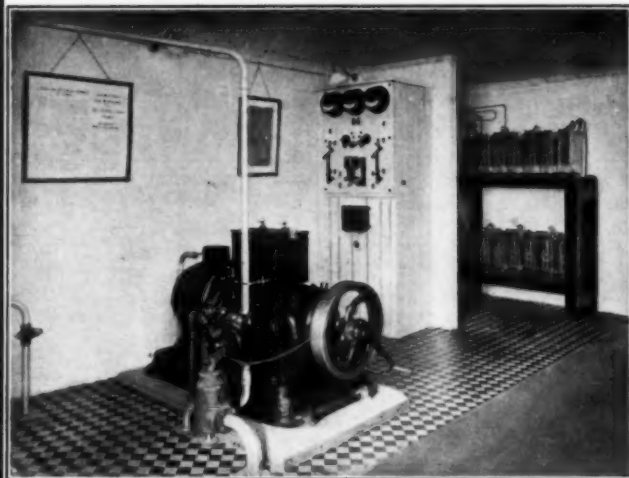
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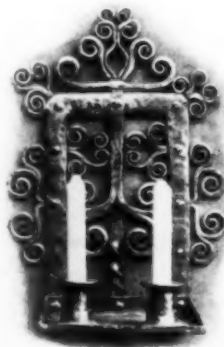
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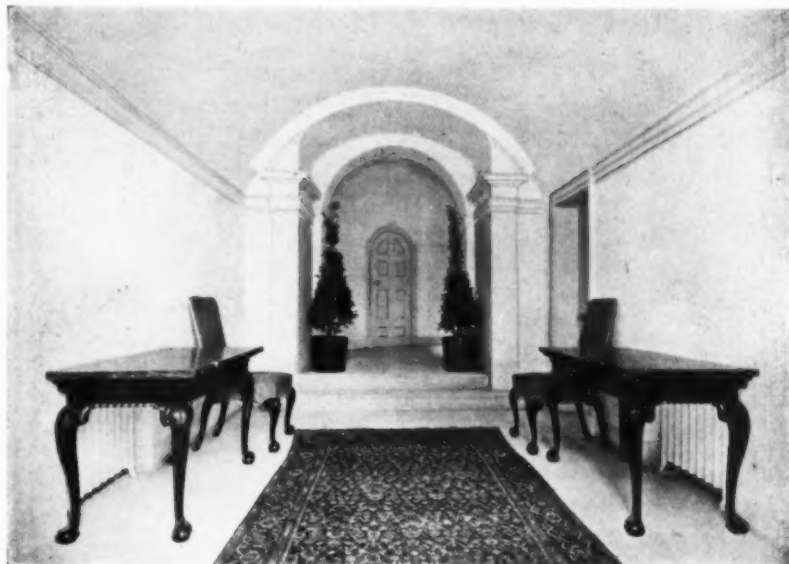
Reproduction in Silvered Brass of 12-light Candelabra made for His Majesty's State Room, Holyrood Palace. The original, mainly of Repoussé Silver, was probably made about the year 1700 and hung—as shown by an old print of the period—in the Banqueting Hall of William of Orange at Hampton Court Palace.



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VESTIBULE AT 36, SMITH SQUARE.



PLANS OF 36, SMITH SQUARE.

The plan of Mr. McKenna's house (now reproduced) shows a very interesting treatment of the corner site. The entrance door opens on a simply treated hall, and the staircase is an attractive feature with its brown marble walls and admirable iron handrail. Another brick house in the same manner is 7, St. James' Square, the stone porch of which appears in one of our illustrations. L. W.

29, CHESHAM PLACE, S.W.

THE *Times* the other day was advising us to scrap our outworn domestic machinery.

It is not every house, however, which can cast the skin of Mid-Victorianism with the thoroughness of the present example. Mr. J. W. Simpson and Mr. Maxwell Ayrton must have enjoyed the reconstruction for Lady Waterlow of such a dull building as 29, Chesham Place used to be. Innovation begins on the doorstep, with such an up-to-date feature as a finely moulded door, sheathed with copper electrically deposited. This is a modern translation of the cast bronze door of poetry and of those more tangible examples which are decorated by applied sheets of metal. The method of copper deposit enables the most delicate modelled ornament to be reproduced with absolute faithfulness. One of our illustrations shows this delightful feature of the newer mode. Within the entrance door is a charming lobby with a screen surmounted by a fanlight of the type which eighteenth century London accepted with enthusiasm from the Brothers Adam. The staircase is a miniature Scala Regia, a very chastened model of Bernini's great Vatican approach. The landing illustrated is very simple and effective, in the same style, and leads into the reconstructed drawing-rooms. The large drawing-room is L-shaped, with a screen



STAIRCASE AT 36, SMITH SQUARE.



PORCH OF 7, ST. JAMES' SQUARE.

of two columns at the junction of the two parts, a feature which maintains the proper individuality of each. Black marble has been most effectively used for the fluted shafts, leaving the vases and capitals white. The mantel-piece and mirror are older features which have been brought into the scheme. The floor is polished in black, and has the sheen and even surface of lacquer. It forms an effective base to the white walls. The small drawing-room is at the other end of the vaulted landing, and the whole suite is in effective combination. This room is more individual in treatment, with an arched ceiling of great simplicity. The white pilasters are set on grounds of black plaster, and the black line of the impost at the spring of the ceiling binds the whole design together. This black plaster is of great interest, as its composition throws us back to the rich Roman houses at Pompeii with their polychromatic decorations emphasized by black. The feature of the Chesham Place treatment is that the material is black all through, not ordinary plaster finished black. The mantel-piece will be noticed as being in exact harmony with the architectural idea of the room, which is all reminiscent of the work of the Brothers Adam, and yet has a modern and personal note of its own. The same black polished floor is used, and serves as an attractive background for gold-coloured Oriental rugs.

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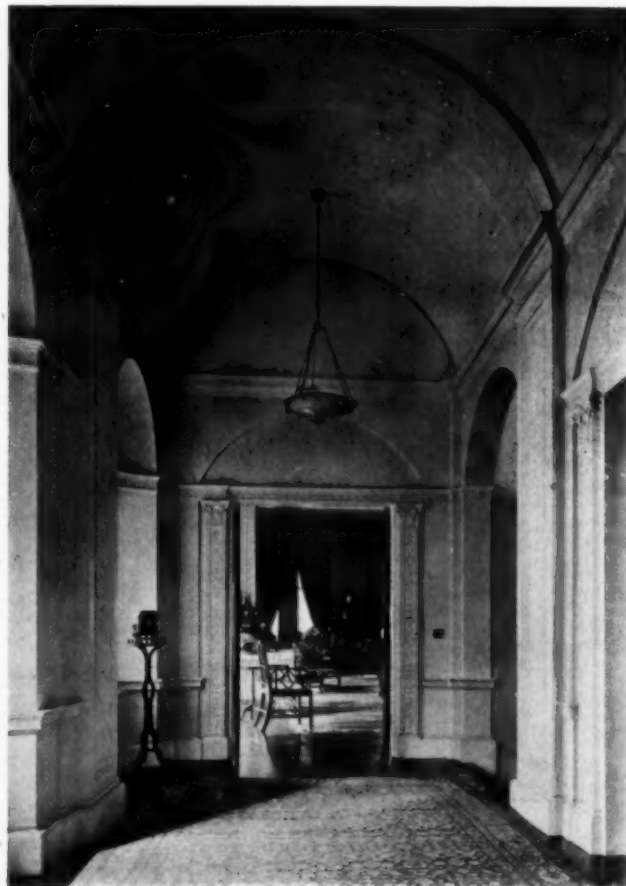
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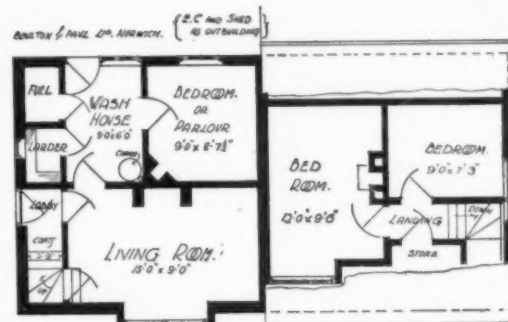
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